
THE COUNTERPART CONSORTIUM

PROGRAM OF CIVIL SOCIETY AND NGO DEVELOPMENT FOR THE CENTRAL ASIA REGION

QUARTERLY REPORT

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Counterpart International, Inc.

**1200 18th St., NW, Ste. 1100
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tel: 202-296-9676
Fax: 202-296-9679**

**36 Zhandosov Street
Almaty, Kazakhstan
Tel: 7-3272-98-06-08
Fax: 7-3272-98-06-06**

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I. BROAD SECTOR SUPPORT: COUNTERPART INTERNATIONAL

A. PROJECT PURPOSE

Strengthened democratic culture among citizens and targeted institutions

B. PROJECT IMPACTS

KAZAKHSTAN

Sustainable Civil Society Organizations

Eastern Kazakhstan NGOs Becomes More Sustainable

One of the goals to be reached by Counterpart's partner organizations in Phase III is to become more sustainable for successful implementation of their activities. To this end *ZUBR* from Ust-Kamenogorsk and *Iris* from Semipalatinsk successfully attracted additional funding in the amount of \$10,000 through participation in the program "NGO supports NGO year 2" funded by Soros Foundation-Kazakhstan. For such a short time these organizations developed their own fundraising policy that helped them to support other partner local organizations as well as to become more sustainable.

First Hospice In Kazakhstan Is Starting Its Operations

Thousands of oncological-diseased people are in need of a palliative care, but there is no hospice to tend to their needs. In 1998 an initiative group of medical students founded an NGO that could mobilize resources needed to establish a hospice. Passing through several Counterpart trainings, this group established the *NGO Solaris* in Pavlodar in 1999, which then entered into cooperation with the oncological-diseases hospital and started providing medical services at home such as psychological consultations, medicine consultations and social care (i.e. food delivery and cooking for oncological-diseased patients). At the time the NGO had found premises for the hospice and after renovation the hospice started operating. One further problem solved by the NGO was the need for volunteers with specialized knowledge of palliative care. The NGO applied to the British Embassy and received \$3,842 to train and develop 20 volunteers to work in the hospice. As a result of this activity 50 people will receive palliative care in this hospice starting from November.

Society for Disabled People Reregistered as an International Association

The NGO *Zhan* (the soul) was registered as a local NGO in September 2001 and has been an ongoing recipient of Counterpart support since it first founded. They were the most active in lobbying the interests of their focus group on national level. In May 2001 they won a grant for network development from Soros Foundation Kazakhstan (\$35,000) to open the branches in various regions of Kazakhstan as well as in other Central Asian republics (Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Tajikistan). The "Asian Society of Disabled People" became a registered organization. New legal status will help them to expand their services and deliver help to the disabled people in the region. They will also begin lobbying activities on behalf of disabled persons at an international level. This is the first instance of a Kazakhstan NGO working at an international level.

Confederation of NGOs Delivers Services and Develops Financial Sustainability

Many NGOs still experience problems in promoting their activities and gaining support from their constituencies through mass media. The *Confederation of Non Governmental Organizations of Kazakhstan*, a current Counterpart grantee that unites more than 100 Kazakhstani NGOs, received a \$5,000 grant from the World Bank to create 24 TV programs entitled "Success – it's me". For the first time an Astana-based non-governmental organization has reached a franchise agreement on television broadcasts on local state television channels for the next six months. Thus, Counterpart's focus NGO has been encouraging the development of the civil initiatives through the media.

NGO Organized Deaf Translation on the National Channel Khabar

One of the main problems of deaf people in Kazakhstan is that they are isolated from audio information such as television and radio. Until recent times there has been only one source of deaf translation on TV-ORT Russia. Since 1997 the NGO *Umit* has promoted the idea of deaf translations on the Kazakh channel *Khabar*. In 2001 *Umit* started to receive the services of the Counterpart-Zhalgas Center and has participated in “NGO and Community”, “Project Design” and “Fundraising” trainings. These increased skills, *Umit* was able to attract 6,000,000 tenge (approximately \$41,000) from Chevron to begin a deaf Russian language translation project on *Khabar* channel in June 2001. Chevron is covering all fees until May 2002, when the Kazakh Ministry of Social Affairs will provide further support.

Social Partnership

National Consumer's League of Kazakhstan Helps to Develop Legislation

Interaction between non-governmental organizations and state bodies in Kazakhstan is most often conducted in the form of single actions and NGO initiative. As a result of participation in the conference “Conceptual Problems of Legal Development in Kazakhstan” held in Almaty from March 26-28 coordinated by Counterpart focus NGO the *National Consumer's League of Kazakhstan*, an advising council was organized under the Ministry of Justice. The specialists of *National Consumer's League of Kazakhstan* are involved in the ongoing advisement of this body. Establishment of such councils assists effective dialogue development between non-governmental organizations and state bodies in addition to strengthening the NGO's capacity in social partnership

Partnership, Coalition –Building and Association Development

Rural NGO Developed Partnership with Urban NGO for Education Rural Children

Major problems facing Talgar's youth are access to quality education and awareness of options of things to do in their free time. The NGO *Union of Rural Women of Talgar's District* attended Counterpart trainings and receives regular support from Counterpart-Zhalgas to work with its focus community. During one of the trainings it learned about the *Association of Young Leaders (AYL)* and got acquainted with its president Natalia Bakhmutova. The *Union* conducted negotiations with AYL and developed a plan of joint actions focused on education of rural children at AYL. This will provide rural children with the opportunity to learn more about the social life and after school activities of their peers and will serve as a means to strengthen the ties between rural and city students. Starting in September 2001 twenty rural children will attend trainings at AYL. These trainings directed for comprehensive development of child individuality, breeding and skills of leadership, dispute and communication. Young leaders of AYL and close attendance of members of the organization will conduct trainings. This should be helpful experience for rural children in their behavior, socialization and aspiration for better.

Community Mobilization

Successful Community Actions in Almaty

Counterpart-Zhalgas began cooperation last autumn with *Baspana*, a local NGO who protects the rights of poor and homeless people in Almaty. *Baspana* expressed interest in Counterpart's Community Outreach Program and sent two participants to PCA training in Almaty. Following the training *Baspana* prepared four focus communities, including *Shanyrak 2*, to model a real PCAP situation for trainees and ascertain the priority needs of the community. One of the needs identified was construction of a road. In the beginning community members thought that the facilitators came to solve their problems and asked them to help in construction of the road. During this training exercise the participants explained to the local inhabitants the idea of PCA methodology, and that the main idea is for the community take initiative and demonstrate that they can solve problems themselves. In March 2001 the community, inspired by an initiative group of 16 families, combined forces to build a gravel road 434 meters long and 4 meters wide. *Baspana* provided transportation and the community bought construction materials and by May 2001 the road was build.

KYRGYZSTAN

Sustainable Civil Society Organizations

Charitable Foundation Jolgon Raised Money to Rehabilitate a Water System

1500 residents of the Jarkymbaev village in the Issyk-Kul region accessed drinking water from a water system built in 1960. For the last ten years nothing has been done to maintain this system, resulting in significant deterioration. The decrease in the quality of water coming from the system caused many villagers to use water from a nearby river. In order to raise funding to repair the system the members of the Charitable Foundation *Jolgon* turned to the Karakol CSSC for counseling support in project design. Using expertise provided through these consultations and through training in NGO and Community, *Jolgon* appealed to the World Bank for funding support and was awarded a \$3,800 grant to rehabilitate the system of drinking water in the Jarkymbaev village. The NGO will initiate the establishment of a community-based water committee, which will control the utilization of the water system, identify and fix system defects.

CSSC of the Issyk-Kul Region Helps an Initiative Group to Acquire Legal Status

Over a one-year period an initiative group of disabled in Karakol tried to launch activities, but was unable to get official legal status. The regional Department of Justice returned registration papers three times for updating. The group appealed to the Karakol CSSC with project ideas, but lacking legal status it faced complications of cooperation with donor agencies. The CSSC assisted the initiative group in designing a packet of registration papers including a Charter, a list of governing body members and a list of founders, and provided the group with access to office equipment to create and print documents. The group was also invited to the Project Design workshop and received a list of donor agencies and NGOs operating in the Issyk-Kul region. As a result, the Public Association *The World of Issyk-Kul* was registered with the regional Department of Justice in February 2001. It also received \$70 (3000 som) to buy equipment to broadcast a radio program and publish two brochures in both Russian and Kyrgyz covering the activities of *World of Issyk-Kul* Public Foundation. The organization also closely collaborates with mass media in Karakol.

A Non-Profit Organization Raises Funding From Local Governing Bodies

The Kadamjai area of the Batken region is located 120 km from the regional center and 870 km from Bishkek. The population of the area is 145,000 people. Being a very remote region it is cut off any information flows. The Information and Coordination Center *Ustat*, established in 1998, was looking for sources of funding to implement a project aimed at creating an independent local TV Center *Kadamjai*. After attending Counterpart trainings and workshops *Kadamjai* began an aggressive fundraising campaign. As a result Parliament allocated \$1,500 for the purchase of equipment and the local government provided \$400 to purchase office space for a TV company. At present the TV Center *Kadamjai* has an opportunity to broadcast its programs once a week and inform the general public on important events taking place at regional, national and international levels.

Kyrgyz Alliance of Family Planning Expands its Influence in the Community

Reproductive health of the population is a relevant issue in the Issyk-Kul region. The Issyk-Kul CSSC offered counseling support in NGO registration to the initiative group that coordinated activities on reproductive health issues in the region. As a result the group was registered with the regional department of justice as an Issyk-Kul branch of the Kyrgyz Alliance on Family Planning (IB KAFP). The leaders of IB KAFP attended Counterpart trainings in Fundraising, Project Design and Volunteer Management. Not long time ago IB KAFP together with the International Federation on Family Planning got a \$5,500 grant from UNFM to conduct a series of seminars in sex education of young people and teenagers based on a principle "equal to equal" and to open the KAFP office. At the present time the NGO incorporates 12 legal entities and 60 individuals who collect membership dues to fulfill activities outlined in their Charter. All activities performed by organizations and citizens in the area of reproductive health are well coordinated and a success in the community.

NGO Facilitates Fundraising for a Tuberculosis Hospital

Economic constraints in the Kyrgyz Republic affect all spheres of life, especially healthcare and hospital management. Statistics show 88 tuberculosis cases were registered in the Batken region in 2000 and 21 cases in the Batken area. In 2001 the incidence of tuberculosis increased twofold: 135 cases were registered in the Batken region and 50 at the local level. TB patients require high calorie intake that can hardly be covered through the budget allocated by the government. In Batken, the tuberculosis hospital was no longer able to provide patients with adequate nutrition. NGO *Sulaiman-Bakir*, which was established in 2000, attended a series of training workshops, such as Project Design, NGO and Community, Participatory Community Appraisal, held by the Batken CSSC. With counseling support from Center and in collaboration with the hospital administration the NGO wrote a proposal to build a small farm for the TB hospital. Mercy Corps International funded the project in the amount of \$2,025. Under the project four cows and thirty-eight goats were purchased for the farm. Currently, 80 patients, 30 of whom are children, are provided with fresh milk and meat. Each patient receives on a monthly basis 6 liters of milk that contains proteins, fat, potassium as well as vitamins A, E, C, B5, B12, D that contribute to a speedy recovery for the patients.

Children's Talents Successfully Resolve Financial Problems

In the beginning of 2001 a non-profit Center for Support of Young Talents in Naryn initiated the revival of the music group Altyn Balalyk. 50 gifted children were selected to the group. In order to participate in the TV program "A Crystal Note" and demonstrate children's skills it was necessary to raise funding for music instruments and costumes. Parents were the only source of funding and therefore only few of the children could participate in the program. The members of the Center for Support of Young Talents took part in trainings held by the Naryn CSSC, which in addition offered counseling and technical support. The NGO was also assisted in organizing a marathon and publishing promotional booklets. On June 1, 2001 a show and a marathon were held in the Naryn Music Drama Theatre, at which the Altyn Balalyk group raised \$1,360.00. Owing to a successful fundraising campaign the group of talented children got many wonderful opportunities. They purchased attractive outfits and can participate in shows and performances on a national level and admit more gifted children to the group.

Volunteerism

Volunteers Contribute to the Improvement of Orphans Lives

In the Naryn region of Kyrgyzstan many parents are unemployed and unable to provide for their families, many with five or more children. Not having essential items at home, these children are forced to beg in the streets and join groups of homeless children and beggars who ask for money and other items to survive. Quite often these children do not have shoes and their clothing is so old and shabby that they are unable to attend school. Volunteers from the *Center of Volunteer Initiatives*, created by the Naryn CSSC, studied the problem and decided to support homeless orphans and children. The volunteers applied to ADRA Foundation for humanitarian aid and received 1125 kg of children's clothes. Local NGOs made their contributions as well by providing transportation services to bring the shipment from Bishkek to Naryn. Clothing was distributed among 950 orphans and homeless children in three areas of the Naryn Region. Further, 20 homeless children who had previously quit school were able to continue their education as a result of the shoes and clothing received.

Partnership, Coalition-Building and Association Development

Rehabilitation of Middle School in the Yurevka Village, Issyk-Ata Area

Children of local villagers and 180 refugee families lacked the opportunity for education in the Yurevka village of the Issyk-Ata area. A local school was built 39 years ago for 550 school students. At present there are 7586 students attending the school including 49 refugee children. The school has been poorly maintained: the heating system is in disrepair and the roof is leaking making the classrooms wet and inappropriate for holding classes. A community meeting was held to discuss the problem. Community members decided to raise funds to repair the school. Refugee NGO *Sairon* in collaboration with the school administration, local governing bodies and with support and counseling from the Kant CSSC designed a partnership project, which was approved in the amount of \$1,904 by

UNDP program “Strengthening NGO/CBO Capacity in the Social Sector”. The school administration and local government contributed \$3,615 to repair classrooms, purchase and put together a heating system, and purchase and deliver construction materials. The local population collected an additional \$1,480. Over the period of 11 weeks the roof of the school was renewed and classrooms were repaired. 80% of local citizens, members and volunteers of the NGO *Sairon*, school administration and local government participated in the project implementation. Through joint efforts the school in Yurevka village was rehabilitated and the students were able to finish the school year in an appropriate environment. 90 more students were admitted to the first grade in a rehabilitated school.

NGOs of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan Implement a Cross-Border Project

The Osh and Batken Regions of Kyrgyzstan and the Leninabad Region of Tajikistan have been in close cooperation for years. The population of each region is made up of Kyrgyz, Tajiks and Uzbeks. Among the most critical problems of this area are ethnic conflicts, inequality between men and women and violations against women. Realizing negative consequences that may result from these problems and participating in round tables and trainings conducted by Counterpart, four NGOs – Osh Regional Center of Women’s Initiatives *Ayalzat*, Batken NGO *Omur Bulagy*, Batken Association *Ayal Jana Ui-Bulo* and NGO *Irshod* from Tajikistan decided to unite their efforts to address these problems by conducting joint Kyrgyz-Tajik round tables, meetings, friendship festivals and seminars on women’s rights. To implement these activities they received technical support from the Batken CSSC to design a project that was approved by Soros Foundation in the amount of \$800. Thirty women from Tajikistan and 58 women from Kyrgyzstan participated in round tables and seminars that were aimed at developing leadership skills and cooperation between women of two countries. As a result of the project, women in neighboring regions established close ties. They also became better aware of women’s rights through round tables and seminars. In the future, partner organizations plan to establish crisis centers in these regions.

Social Policy/Advocacy

Learned About Own Rights and How to Protect Them

The need to provide free counseling support to low-income and vulnerable groups in the Naryn region emerged several years ago. Due to the low level of legal education among disadvantaged groups it was impossible to adequately defend the legal interests of citizens. The lack of knowledge of the labor, civil and criminal codes provided the pretext for infringing upon basic human rights, in this remote, economically underdeveloped, and socially vulnerable region of the country. Based on results of a study it conducted on this problem last year, the NGO *Soopker* established the *Center of Free Legal Consultations*. The Naryn CSSC offered the NGO counseling support in project design and invited the NGO to participate in roundtables and training workshops including such as Project Design and Fundraising. Under the assistance of the CSSC the *Center* was established to provide access to legal regulations, laws and bylaws; two professional lawyers provided counseling support on legal issues to those in need. Over the life of this one-year project the number of visitors to the *Center* was 756, the *Center* defended the rights of 12 families whose houses were confiscated by the agricultural corporation for inability to pay debts. As a result of *Center* efforts and litigation, one citizen was paid back \$850. On the whole, 70% of the total number of people who applied to the *Center* received efficient support in defense of their right and interests.

World War veterans Utilize Advocacy Tools to Protect Their Rights

According to a Presidential Decree World War II veterans in the Naryn region are entitled to free rehabilitation treatment on an annual basis or 50-percent financial compensation instead of treatment. In spite of the Decree many veterans have received neither the rehabilitation nor money compensation since it was issued in 1996. For the past 3.5 years the *Public Association of Social Protection* (PASP) has championed this cause by writing numerous appeals and letters to various governmental bodies and the Parliament and conducting negotiations with ministries and deputies. During this period the Naryn CSSC has provided support to PASP in the form of technical assistance, counseling, training and information on legislative acts. The PASP members also participated in round tables and trainings on advocacy conducted by the Naryn CSSC. Due to efficient activities and persistence on the part of

PASP positive outcomes were finally achieved in March 2001. 180 World War veterans of the Kochkor area in the Naryn region received compensation in the amount of \$5,340, which helped:

- Improve the standard of living for WWII veterans and provide them with an opportunity to pay for the cost of treatment;
- Bring into effect the law adopted for the good of veterans and forgotten since 1996;
- Teach people how to advocate for their own rights and interests; and
- Improve the image of PASP in the community.

Community Mobilization

Community Mobilizes Own Resources to Address Problems

In order to get from one village to another in Batken people have to cross borders of neighboring republics, which is becoming an increasing problem. For the 4,000 people living in the Chon-Gara and Zar-Tash villages this has become a growing concern, as the villages are separated by Uzbek villages that are in some parts are divided only by the Sokh river, which cannot be crossed as the bridge is missing. Some community members attended training workshops held by the Batken CSSC and were offered counseling support in community mobilization, which they successfully applied in practice. As a result, villagers from the Cho-Gar village hosted a meeting, at which it was decided to build a bridge. People mobilized community resources to attain this goal. 70 villagers participated in the construction for free and local women cooked meals to provide workers with lunches. Community members contributed \$200 to buy construction materials. As a result of these efforts, villagers can now visit their relatives and friends living in the neighboring area by bypassing customs posts and avoiding conflicts caused by violations of customs rules.

Raising Refugees' Well-being Through Revolving Credit Mechanism

There are currently 3,000 refugee families from Tajikistan in the Issyk-Ata area of Kyrgyzstan. Due to economic constraints and the high level of unemployment in Kyrgyzstan the most vital issue for the refugees is to pursue income-generating activities. Having addressed this problem, the NGO *Sairon* designed a project to provide a series of specific services to develop fund-raising activities for 200 low-income refugee families. The CSSC in Kant organized and conducted 10 training workshops in micro-financing for 15 credit groups at which the participants acquired skills in small business development. The CSSC in Kant also offered counseling support and technical assistance in project design. Twenty-five families received credits and in two months they paid them back with 6% interest. The credits were used to open bakeries, small retail shops, fertilizers shops and small gas stations. Thus, 14 more families (39 instead of 25) received credits from the revolving fund and started their own businesses. The project has already helped 174 people, up from 96 in the very beginning.

Renovation and Cleanup of a Water Canal Will Allow to Efficiently Use Water Resources

The At-Bashy canal is made up of a network of smaller canals. One of them, P-6 canal, delivers water to three villages in the Alamedin area and irrigates three thousand hectares of plowed land. The canal was built in 1936 and has not been renovated ever since, resulting in clogging. Through counseling support and training from the Kant CSSC the NGO *Yntymak-Mercy* designed a project to clean P-6 canal and address the problem of villagers. Mercy Corps, the local irrigation department, the Association of Water Users, and local communities supported the project. One farmer contributed a steam shovel to clean out the larger sections of the canal and 36 citizens manually cleaned a network of smaller canals. In addition, all of the locks in the network were replaced over the course of the month and a half the project was carried out by the community. As a result, the level of water in the canal has increased by a quarter, fields are getting more water, and a fourth village now has access to the canal.

A Bridge Is Built, Life Goes On

Over the last 11 years 464 residents in the Ak-Bosogo residential area have been surviving through significant difficulties because they did not have bridge over the drainage system that separated the residential area from the northwestern part of Bishkek. The population did not have an opportunity to get help in health, fire or other emergency situations, let alone their economic separation from the city. In the fall of 2000 the NGO *Arysh*, with representatives of a local community, studied the problem and started some activities to address it. The Bishkek CSSC assisted the NGO with training in Project Design and Participatory Community Appraisal. Knowledge and skills acquired at workshops were shared with *Arysh's* implementing partners. They designed a project to build a bridge and submitted it to the mayor's office and local governing bodies. As a result of negotiations and activities pursued by the activists in collaboration with local government the city mayor supported the project with \$375. Local governing bodies supplied construction materials and the *Arysh* purchased construction materials worth \$1,460. According to data provided by the NGO 98% of human resources were invested in building of the bridge. The construction was completed within 20 days. As a result of an efficient partnership among the NGO, the implementing partners and governmental agencies the residents of the Ak-Bosogo area are no longer separated from the capital city.

TAJIKISTAN

Sustainable Civil Society Organizations

Journalists of Fergana Valley Initiate the Creation of a Journalist Center in Konibodom

The political and economical problems that the country has met during the last ten years have also affected more than 120 journalists living in Tajikistan part of Fergana Valley. Many of them could not improve their professional skills due to lack of journalist supporting entities. After attending Counterpart's training workshops conducted by the Khojand CSSC four of them came together and created a journalists' resource center in Konibodom District and called it *Journalism and Democracy*.

Kulob CSSC Helps Three NGOs Obtain Legal Status

During May 2001 three new NGOs: *Shodi*, *Baljuwon* and *Subhi Tandurusti* were registered as legal entities after they received consultations and other technical assistance from the Kulob Support Center. The Kulob region of the Khatlon Oblast is a remote area of Tajikistan, where the NGO sector has not been developed, due to a lack of NGO support type of organizations, such as Counterpart. In December 2000 Counterpart opened the CSSC in Kulob to provide services to NGOs. Before that only nine NGOs were in the region but since that time nine new NGOs have been registered with the support from the Kulob CSSC.

Media/Sustainable CSSC

Successful Publicity Campaign Helps the NGO Parastor to Find New Donors

The NGO *Parastor* has had an excellent background in dealing with community problems, but its lack of fundraising skills limited the scope of services it could provide to new beneficiaries. As a result of participating in several NGO Management Training Seminars *Parastor* now has a better understanding of such skills as fundraising, project design and proposal writing. *Parastor* has just successfully implemented a project *School of Survival* funded by Counterpart under the NGO Expand Program and has also conducted a good publicity campaign. Because of its work the NGO *Parastor* now has a very positive image among the local population and the international donor community in Tajikistan. The local media recognized *Parastor* as one of the more effective social delivery non-governmental organizations of Dushanbe and dedicated a number of articles and TV/radio programs to its charitable activity. As a result the World Bank chose *Parastor* as one of the partners for its *Poverty Reduction Program* and offered to expand its activity to include the *Sughd* oblast as well. The World Bank supported *Parastor's* *Chicken Incubator Project*, a project for \$3,000 USD. The project aims to teach more than 150 women in new chicken rising techniques and provide them with chickens on the compensatory basis.

Volunteerism

Tajik NGOs Foster Volunteer Movement in Tajikistan

The *Center of Volunteer Initiatives*, with Counterpart support, conducted a national conference entitled “Development of the Volunteer Movement in Tajikistan.” A total of 110 representatives of local NGOs from all over the country attended the conference in order to share practices and experiences and identify concrete methods and approaches to effectively use volunteers. The conference resulted in formulating 11 concepts for fostering volunteerism in Tajikistan, including creating a network of volunteer centers throughout the country. Counterpart was instrumental in the establishment of the *Center of Volunteer Initiatives*, which represents the collaborative efforts of the NGOs *Manizha*, *Najot-2000* and *National Association of Independent Mass Media*.

Social Partnership

Kulob Roundtable Results in Creating a Joint Project Between NGOs and Local Government

The Association of Journalists *Social Partnership* conducted a roundtable in Kulob on Social Partnership with representatives of local NGOs, government, businesses and media representatives to promote social partnership between the sectors of society in Tajikistan. As a result of the roundtable local NGOs and government agreed to establish a Press Center in Kulob in order to collect information especially about Tajikistan and disseminate it among the population of Kulob. Many people, particularly in remote areas like Kulob, have raised the problem of accessing information. The local government is providing the premises for the Center.

Partnership, Coalition Building and Association Development

Three NGOs in Khojand Come Together to Address Youth Drug Addiction

Over the past four years there has been a marked increase in drug addiction among the youth in the Sogd Oblast. The following three organizations – Youth Initiative Center *Ittifok*, *No Drugs* and Public Television *SM1* – created the coalition *Youth Against Drugs* to prevent further increases in drug addiction among youth. During 2 months they conducted 25 seminars or discussions on drug addiction with 380 senior students in 13 schools of Khojand. SM 1 showed a number of video and TV programs on this topic. According to the questionnaires filled out by the seminars’ participants before and after seminars they became better informed about the dangers of drug addiction and changed their attitude toward drug addicts. In many of the schools where the seminars were held the administration is committed to continuing anti-drug educational activities.

Advocacy

GBAO NGOs Contributed to Drug Problem Solution and Earn Government Respect

Drug trafficking, trade and addiction are the most vital problems facing the GBAO region today. As such, when an inspecting tour through the region was taken by state authorities the question of anti-drug trafficking and addiction treatment arose. Local government officials used domestic NGO achievements in their final report. The report contained various success stories of such local NGOs as *Madina*, *Volunteer* and *Intellect* that made the report solid and complete. The data was collected and well organized with input and support by the Khorog CSSC, run by the NGO *Kalam*, thus raising the credibility of both *Kalam* and NGOs in GBAO.

Community Mobilization

NGO Intellect Initiates Hashar to Assist Khorog Community with Water Problems

The inhabitants of Gulmamadov Mahalla of Khorog were suffering from the lack of the clean water that resulted the spread of a number of different infectious diseases. To help people solve the problem the NGO *Intellect* started to search for a donor that would help pay for water pipes and other construction materials. As a result of *Intellect’s* efforts the Khorog branch of the World Food Program (WFP) donated food equivalent to \$1,800 for the project. The food was then exchanged for raw materials. At the same time the organization initiated a traditional *hashar*, a local voluntary labor campaign, among the members of the community. As a result the community joined together and laid about 500 meters of pipes, free of charge. This community mobilization initiative of the NGO brought clean water to more than 110 families of Gulmamadov Mahalla.

Electricity Shortage Liquidated with Community's Efforts

The entire GBAO region of Tajikistan has suffered from electricity shortages throughout the postwar period, and the Shivorj community is a striking example of this. Last year Counterpart conducted training workshops on "Problem Identification" and "Project Design" aimed at assisting this community with finding possible solutions to the problem. As a result, the Shivorj community members were able to write a project proposal to the UN World Food Program to install an electric power micro-station and restore a malfunctioning generator. The proposal was approved and the community members successfully implemented the project. At present 60 households comprised of 500 inhabitants are now provided with essential access to electricity.

TURKMENISTAN

Sustainable Civil Society Organizations

NGO Harnesses Resources for Fellow Eco-NGOs

Turkmenistan's Eco-NGO leaders are learning how to diversify their activities and attract resources to Turkmenistan. One Counterpart Contract Trainer from the *Commonwealth of ECO NGOs* recently visited Kazakhstan to take part in a Regional ISAR Expert Commission meeting. During her trip, she became acquainted with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) based in Almaty. She used the skills gained in Fundraising training to invite the CIDA representative to Turkmenistan and they jointly planned a meeting of Eco-NGOs that took place the following month. During that meeting, CIDA solicited proposals for its small grant competition. As a result, seven of Counterpart's former grantees were assisted by the programming team to design proposals for CIDA's grant program. All seven proposals from Ecological NGOs were approved, bringing \$12,780 in funds to Turkmenistan.

NGO Finds Solution to Combat Water Shortage

In the year 2000, the lack of water in the Amu-Darya river, which is the primary water-way for the Dashoguz region, led to a lack of irrigation water for agricultural needs and consequently to low harvest output and high prices for products in local markets. The drought also severely reduced the amount of drinking water in rural areas. Most of the population has no other access to drinking water other than ditches and wells. It is predicted that this situation may recur for the next three years requiring immediate interventions to avoid a serious health and environmental disaster. The drought situation was a topic during a meeting of the "Discussion Club" of the Dashoguz CSSC. As an alternative way to access water, the NGO *Agrokhimik*, which works with farmers in Dashoguz velayet, proposed using underground water to irrigate farming fields in 20 farms. Following the discussion CSSC staff assisted the NGO in the design of a proposal for \$3,860 that was subsequently funded by the Canadian Local Initiative Fund. Through the project 13 hectares of agricultural fields were irrigated impacting 20 farming households, and providing clean drinking water to 350-450 village dwellers living in the Tagta area.

For NGO Trieria Motion is Life

People with hemophilia and hematology diseases in Dashoguz have limited access to resources to help them improve their health condition. The absence of safe places for and types of exercise leads to a passive lifestyle for most people suffering from such illnesses. The fear of pain, trauma, bleeding and other injuries further isolates them. *Trieria* is a membership organization drawn from this category of disabled. They identified the absence of specialized sporting clubs and health complexes as one of the primary reasons for the social isolation and lack of physical exercise of hemophiliacs from early childhood onward. As a result, they designed a project called "Motion is Life" to create a specialized health complex for this target group which would also rehabilitate them in active society. The proposal was translated by the Dashoguz CSSC which organized a meeting between the NGO and Charity Know How Fund/New Zealand Embassy Moscow which subsequently approved a grant of \$3,510 to the NGO. The funds will enable the NGO to develop and conduct physical training courses for 300 people over the next year. The Members of Trieria have received instruction that will certify them as trainers for this disabled group. The first group of 25 children with hematology diseases has

completed the initial series of classes and parents have noticed demonstrated improvement in their health that they attribute to the good work of the NGO.

Uchgun Partners with UNICEF on Sanitation Education in Schools

Uchgun has grown from a small local CBO of three midwives in a rural village of Dashoguz to a full-fledged contracting partner with international organizations in less than two years of experience working with Counterpart. Members have been trained in a variety of capacity building modules as well as Community Health, Developing Training Model of Water and Sanitation, and Training Methodology. *Uchgun* works in rural communities of Turkmenbashi etrap with poor drinking water and a high frequency of water born infectious diseases. The CBO conducts training on safe hygiene practices among villagers and high school students. This CBO developed capacity managing projects through two separate grants from Counterpart. Counterpart showcased their efforts during many donor community health roundtables last year resulting in a \$1,500 subcontract from Counterpart to implement a training component of the UNICEF “Water and Sanitation-3 Project”. They conducted training in participatory self-management of school infrastructure and health and hygiene in 100 schools during the year 2000. This June, *Uchgun* was awarded its first direct contract of \$1,200 from UNICEF to replicate their work in the “Water and Sanitation-4 Project”. They are planning to conduct 13 training sessions at 20 schools, including 200 participants drawn from the Board of Education, school Directors, Steering Committees, and Parent Committees. *Uchgun*’s health training is unique in that it combines educational exercises with methodology promoting democratic decision-making and accountability for resources to its target groups.

Media/Outreach

NGO Brings Consumer Information to Turkmenistan

Most people in Turkmenistan have very little access to information regarding their rights as consumers. When information becomes available, there is no consistent mechanism to ensure that it will be accessed by a broad segment of the population. The NGO *My Rights* was recommended by Counterpart to participate in their International Conference titled: “Consumer Research: Genetically Modified Food Products”. Upon returning to Turkmenistan, the members conducted an analysis of the Turkmenistan market in which they concluded that residents of the capital, Ashgabad, do not know that many of the food products they consume on a daily basis have been modified with a variety of chemicals. The same lack of information is prevalent in the regions.

To address this issue, *My Rights* members carried-out the following public outreach activities:

- Held a meeting with 10 specialists from the Ministry of Trade in which the Ministry agreed to jointly develop a set of regulations specific to the importation of genetically modified items.
- Distributed 60 informational bulletins around Ashgabad, copies of which were also placed in Counterpart’s resource center which distributed an additional 120 copies
- Conducted a mini-seminar on the topic for members of 14 NGOs who later transferred the information to 420 members of their constituency groups.
- In two months, information was distributed to 624 members of 30 NGOs.

Social Partnership

CBO Bereket Helps to Increase the Profit from the Cotton Harvest

The Drought in the Dashoguz region of Turkmenistan has had a tremendous impact on agricultural production directly impacting village livelihood. Standard gravity irrigation has had several limitations including cost of pumps, repairs, and ineffective water utilization, resulting in low output and low income to community members. The CBO *Bereket* was organized by community members of Garaul-Gala village to resolve this issue. They received a small grant from Counterpart to build check gates and a turnout irrigation system that improved the efficiency of water utilization and brought a more secure water supply to the sown fields. As a result of the project, 873 hectares of sown area are irrigated by the modified system. The community manages the system using group decision-making learned through steering committees on the Water User’s Association project. The local government appreciates the efforts undertaken by the community and local authorities have commended the CBO for the water security achieved through the community-lead project. As a reward, the government has

given the communities a select cotton seed called “Elita” which could increase profit from the harvest by 30% in 2001. Already one hundred and thirty-four hectares of land rented by the members of CBO *Bereket* are planted with “Elita” seeds. It is anticipated that in the fall more than 400,000 manats of benefit will result from each ton of harvested cotton.

Association Development, Coalition Building and Partnership

Linking Resources to Support Children At-Risk

The Turkmen Ministry of Internal Affairs manages a temporary shelter for 30 abandoned children, street children, and runaways. The state then determines whether they can go back to their homes, or places them in orphanages. In the past, the shelter was closed with no access to people from outside. This practice isolated the children and stunted their development. A year ago, a group of NGO representatives from five NGOs learned about the shelter in a Counterpart training activity and decided to approach its Director to request permission to extend their activities to the at-risk children living there. Thus began a series of educational, psychological and medical visits to the children by a group of volunteers from the NGOs. The Shelter staff now embraces the assistance from the outside and recently celebrated “World Children’s Defense Day” with an event co-sponsored by the *Red Crescent Society*. Additional sponsors included Counterpart, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ashgabad Hakimlik and four other NGOs. A staff member stated “We have about thirty children from 3 to 18 years old here and your kind support has made them feel like valuable members of society. The shelter is no longer a place where children are hidden from the outside.” Now there is a structure of support consisting of six NGOs targeting children that voluntarily assist the shelter regularly through: counseling, instruction in methodologies for educating disadvantaged children, searches for families, provision of humanitarian assistance, and medical consultations. One NGO attracted \$3900 from the Know How Fund following the event, resulting in the renovation of space to create a ceramic and painting workshop for the children.

Advocacy

Gold Medal Raises Acceptance of Handicapped in Turkmenistan

Counterpart assisted the “*Turkmenistan Special Olympics Committee*” to prepare documentation for 13 mentally handicapped members of Turkmen’s floor hockey team to attend the Winter Special Olympics in Anchorage, Alaska. Once the complicated process of applying to the Games was complete, the organization was up against the obstacle of raising \$20,000 for travel and accommodations. Through perseverance and fundraising, they were able to convince the Mayor’s Office of Ashgabad City to sponsor the full amount of the trip, which culminated in a gold medal victory that was documented in three local newspapers and international press. The Turkmen press put handicapped athletes on the same page as Turkmenistan’s boxing and wrestling champions at the Sydney Olympic Games. The victory has raised the status of disabled athletes and the leaders of the Special Olympics Committee have already been pledged assistance to send athletes to next year’s games as a result of the win for Turkmenistan! Upon return from the games, the team members were each awarded gifts of sports equipment from the Ministry of Education and the boarding school where they live and study was awarded a computer.

UZBEKISTAN

Sustainable Civil Society Organizations

Kokand Center Generates Public Awareness of Elderly Issues

Due to migration of the Russian speaking population from Fergana Valley a lot of elderly people are abandoned by children, helpless, rightless, and very often homeless. The Kokand Center *Mekhr-Sakhovat* supports these people. As a result of Counterpart support and workshops the *Center* has been able to generate the following successes over the past two years:

- 1,621 persons have received consultations
- 86 people got legal advice, in particular on reestablishing the right of housing and on getting pensions

- 46 individuals on the poverty line are under regular care of the *Center* including many homeless who come for temporary shelter and 10-12 people who get their daily meals
- Mahalla committees, governmental structures, and local residents support the *Center's* work. The Khokim's Office provided the *Center* with a spacious building in the center of town.
- A local bakery provides the *Center* with four loaves of bread daily for charity lunches.
- Local TV studio "Mulokat" produced and released a social visual "Abandoned Old Age".

Karakalpakstan NGO Atamakan Organizes Children's Leisure and Provides Information

Most of the children from low-income families in the town of Khalkabad in Karakalpakstan do not have textbooks and do not read newspapers or journals because they cannot afford to buy them. Further, their free time is not organized, leading to delinquency in many Karakalpak youths. Counterpart grantee *Atamakan* participated in Counterpart's Project Design workshop and able to get a grant from the international organization ISAR. The grant was used to start an ecological museum on the premises of school No 19 of Khalkabad. The museum aims to be the center for ecological education of local residents. The members of the school's ecological club, having aquatinted themselves with the work of museums in Samarkand, Bukhara and Khiva, are setting up a museum library. The grant money was also used to subscribe to seven newspapers and journals and to purchase textbooks on history, geography and biology.

The Khorezm Civil Society Support Center Receives Support from Local Authorities

NGOs, especially Civil Society Support Centers, traditionally have a hard time finding suitable office space. Counterpart's partner NGO *Al Khorezmi-Vamberi* had offices in the center of town, in the oblast *khokimiyat* (local executive authority). Unfortunately the offices consisted of only the one room and were not adequate for running a CSSC. *Al Khorezmi-Vamberi* requested additional space from the *khokimiyat*. The *khokimiyat*, realizing the importance of the development of NGOs in the region, made available an additional three rooms and moved the people previously working in these offices to other locations. Further, the *khokimiyat* suspended its usual practice of disallowing reconstruction of load-bearing sections of administrative buildings and let the NGO undertake significant remodeling to accommodate the needs of this new CSSC. As a result, the NGOs of the Khorezm Oblast now have a convenient place to convene and the CSSC has greater potential to build social partnerships between government bodies and NGOs in the region.

Volunteerism

Volunteers of Kokand CSSC Have Paid Jobs

Unemployment, especially among the young people, is one of the gravest problems in the Fergana Valley, the most densely populated region in Uzbekistan. The Kokand Civil Society Support Center has been actively involving young people in its activities. Further the Center has been developing the volunteer movement in the Fergana Valley. Volunteers at the CSSC have been trained at Counterpart's seminars, have gained experience in providing services to the population, have developed computer skills, and have learned to work with contemporary office equipment, all of which have helped them get paid jobs. For example:

- Volunteer Gulasal Khamdamova is now a full-time member of the CSSC staff.
- Volunteer Viktor Sechkin has become a member of the Fergana Region branch of the *Society for Protection of Consumers' Rights*.
- Volunteer Sanjar Olimov has started working as a receptionist in the private firm *Dilorom*.
- Volunteer Dmitriy Kvan is now implementing an economic program in the Association of Business Women of Kokand.
- Volunteer Maftuna Madaminova started working in the NGO *Kamolon*.

Media Outreach

The First Guidebook on NGOs in Uzbekistan

Lack of information about NGO activities in Uzbekistan prevents greater cooperation and information exchange. The NGOs *Tashkent Center for Social and Humanitarian Research* and *Association of Businesswomen of Uzbekistan* published the first guidebook on women's organizations in Uzbekistan,

with the support from Soros Foundation. Counterpart's database of NGOs was a primary source of information in researching organizations to include in this guidebook. 1000 copies of the guidebook are available in one of three languages (Uzbek, English and Russian). It contains information on 58 registered women's NGOs, 14 NGOs doing projects for women and 15 women's newspapers and journals. It also includes information on the development of women's NGOs in Uzbekistan. All Counterpart CSSCs have been provided with copies of the guidebook. The Tashkent Resource Center has sent it to six regional organizations of Russia and Central Asia, including The *Institute for Civil Society Problems* (Moscow) and the *Siberian Civic Initiatives Support Center*. The guidebook will be instrumental in the development of partnerships between Uzbekistan NGOs and those of other countries.

A TV Film on NGO Activities Supported by Local Government

Television is one of the most effective and expensive ways of advertising. The costs are prohibitively expensive for NGOs. At the end of 2000, at the initiative of the Nukus CSSC and with support from Parliament and the Government of Karakalpakstan, the local TV station made a 40 minute film in Karakalpak highlighting the activity of Counterpart's Nukus CSSC and five NGOs of Karakalpakstan (the *Disabled People's Society*, *Golden Heritage of the Aral*, the *Center for Public Research*, *Perzent Center*, and the *Union for the Protection of the Aral and the Amydarya*). The Nukus CSSC manager Palmurza Khojabekov consulted on the film. The production and release of the film cost US \$1,025, with the government covering the majority of the costs (\$911). A copy of the film was provided to the *Oliy Majlis* Committee on Democratic Institutions, local NGOs and local self-governing bodies of the Republic of Uzbekistan to be shown during the hearings on the implementation of the law of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Non-governmental Non-commercial Organizations in Karakalpakstan. Within months of the release of the film on local TV, ten new NGOs and initiative groups were created and started to actively participate in solving social problems at local level.

Social Partnership

First Civil NGO Forum with Participation of Government Officials in Karakalpakstan

Governmental structures mainly do not trust NGOs and do not see them as partners in seeking solutions for regional socio-economic problems. From January to April 2001 the Nukus organization *Renaissance* conducted four roundtable discussions: *Social Partnership is a Crucial Factor for NGOs Sustainable Development*; *Implementation of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Non-governmental Non-commercial Organizations"*; *Problems and Difficulties in NGO Development in the Republic of Karakalpakstan*; and *NGO Development Strategy in Karakalpakstan*. These roundtable discussions resulted in conducting the Civil NGO Forum of Karakalpakstan. At these meetings 69 NGO representatives, 8 Deputy Ministers of the Council of Ministers of Karakalpakstan, the Chairperson of the Commission on Public Associations of the local Parliament, and representatives of business structures and mass media jointly developed the strategy for Karakalpakstan NGO development and the priorities for their activity in the coming three years. The meetings contributed to mutual understanding and cooperation between NGOs and governmental institutions. *Renaissance* leaders have taken part in Counterpart workshops, and are regular recipients of consultative, information and resource support.

Advocacy

Khayet Center in Samarkand Helps One Disabled Woman Fight for Her Rights In Uzbekistan women often lack rights even in their own families. For example, one woman found herself on the streets with her two children so that her husband could move in his new wife. According to Uzbek legislation she couldn't claim her share of space in the house, which was built jointly with her husband, because all the house documentation was in the name of her husband's brother. This woman was a member of the *Khayet Center*, which protects the rights of the disabled, because she was nearly blind. Members of the Centre helped her initial grief and depression over her situation and provided legal advice on what she should do next. She collected testimonies of her 38 neighbors which documented her involvement in the construction of the house. Armed with these depositions, she sought and gained the mahalla committee support. The next step would have been to go to court, but the tide of public opinion forced her husband to give her and the children the ground floor of the

house that they had built together. Counterpart has a long history of supporting the *Khayet*, including providing trainings on Advocacy, which helped *Khayet* members develop a strategy on advocating for disabled woman's rights.

Umidvorlik Center Trains Families with Disabled Children to Protect Their Rights and Interests

Disabled people in Uzbekistan are typically isolated from society and dependent on specialized educational institutions and closed public organizations. Counterpart focus NGO the *Center for Support of Disabled Children Umidvorlik* conducted two workshops for 66 participants from NGOs working with disabled people. In the first quarter of 2001 the *Center's* lawyer, psychologist and sociologist provided 215 consultations. The *Center's* activities foster the development of new attitudes and thinking, encourage initiative and persistence in improving quality of life, and help disabled people and their families allay fears when dealing with government officials. As a result of the *Center's* activities, individuals are empowered to change the system for dealing with the disabled one person:

- Olga Saporojchenko is the mother of a disabled child. Olga was able to get free training at driving courses, as she is responsible for getting her child to doctor's appointments. Olga has also been able to enroll her child in computer and English language courses for free and get government relief on prescription costs.
- Elena Anpilogova is a 23 year old disabled girl who now attends auxiliary classes at high school, thanks to the persistence of her parents, who lobbied the Ministry of Public Education of Uzbekistan for permission.

Federation of the Consumer's Right Protection Societies Protects Co-partnership Rights

Private housing in Uzbekistan comprises 98% of the total housing space. Real estate owners, in accordance with the law of Uzbekistan adopted in April 1999, can set up co-partnerships. Due to the population's legal illiteracy and general lack of awareness co-partnerships are mostly created under pressure from government functionaries, without citizens' involvement. Counterpart grantee, the *Federation of the Consumer's Right Protection Societies* led a campaign to promote the law, which included conducting seminars, meetings, and organizing regular radio and TV programs. Having received 200 complaints from citizens the *Federation* studied CIS experience in setting up co-partnerships and developed proposals which were taken into consideration in the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers, issued in April 2001. With the support from Eurasia Foundation two books in Uzbek and Russian were issued and distributed: "Collection of Legislative and Normative Acts for the Real Estate Owners Co-partnerships" and "Guidebook on Setting up Co-partnerships". The result was that in Uzbekistan Co-partnerships started to be set up through citizen initiative. Thanks to legal and consultative support from the *Federation* twelve co-partnerships in Tashkent were able to oppose to local powers' pressure and protect their rights. For example, apartment owners in neighborhoods No 13 and 19 of Chilanzar, in accordance with legislation, were able to have their houses renovated prior to setting up co-partnerships.

The Women and Society Institute Helps Solve Unemployment Problems

Women are hardest hit by the scarcity of jobs in Uzbekistan, due to their lower socio-economic status and lack of relevant knowledge and skills. The NGO *Women and Society*, under the auspices of the TASCIS LIEN Project (a project implemented by Internationaler Bund, Counterpart Deutschland and Counterpart Uzbekistan) organized a series of eight seminars in eight cities and rural areas from November 2000 to March 2001. 143 unemployed and needy women participated in Counterpart seminars in "Small Business Development," "Project Design" and "NGO and Community," which had been designed to meet the specific needs of the audience. As a result of the skills transferred:

- Four participants wrote and submitted grant proposals to international organizations;
- Two participants from the Tashkent Oblast settlement of Keles opened a small bakery, and one received a license to open a pastry shop;
- Three participants from Tashkent found work and ten pooled their assets to open a tailoring shop;

- Two participants from Fergana got together and opened their own store, while another received a loan to start a small farm;
- Five participants from Termez opened a customized tailoring business and the local center for social adaptation opened a hairdressing salon; and
- One participant from Gulistan in the Syrdarynskaya Oblast opened a cafe, and another received a loan for women entrepreneurs.

Community Mobilization

First NGO Registered in Margilan in the Fergana Valley

Margilan, unlike other towns of Fergana Valley, is famous for its conservatism and adherence to religion. Therefore setting up and registering the first NGO there has become an important event not only in the town but in Fergana Valley as a whole, since it was evidence of the growing activity of initiative groups in local communities. The first NGO in Margilan is the *Centre for Social and Economic Support of Women - Begoyim*, set up in the mahalla *Arik Buyi*. The *Center's* mission is to improve the social and economic situation of the mahalla's more than 1000 women. Having surveyed, in cooperation with mahalla residents, the most vital problems of their community the *Center* is at present engaged with the provision of drinking water to 541 households of the mahalla. The *Center* has also taken steps to start a "hot line" in order to provide psychological support to the most vulnerable groups of people who found themselves in situations of crisis. Counterpart actively contributed to strengthening the potential of this organization, providing training to its members at the seminars, giving them consultative and technical support, and in particular developing their skills and the skills of mahalla residents in identifying and solving community problems.

Women from Kokand save Their Mahalla's Fruit Garden

As a rule, women in Uzbekistan do not play an active role in the resolution of local problems. Counterpart grantee the Mokhtaroyim Center for Socio-Economic Support of Women is training women of Kokand's Davronbek Mahalla No. 1 to be more active, by means of seminars, roundtables, business clubs and other advocacy-centered activities. As a result, the mahalla's women took it upon themselves to form a women's commission, bringing together women activists from 19 of the mahalla's streets. Together with the mahalla committee, the Commission not only looks for solutions to family problems, but also lobbies the interests of its residents. For example, local railway management decided to create a railway freight transfer yard in the location where the mahalla's fruit garden had previously been located. The management suggested that the mahalla's residents cut down the trees and move the canal, the water from which had been used to irrigate the trees, to another place. The Commission voiced their disagreement with the destruction of the garden, wrote an official letter and met with railway management. In the end, the garden and the irrigation canal were saved and are at the disposal of the 700 houses of the mahalla near the garden.

C. HUB CENTER ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

REGIONAL OVERVIEW

From the office of the Regional Director, the most significant single action to take place was the approval of additional funds for Counterpart's Phase III. The additional funding provides us with a Regional Program Manager for one year, the continuation of the Regional OD Advisor for an additional 9 months and the reporting/M&E officer for the 3rd year of the program. There are additional funds for program activities that will allow travel and workshops for the region to complement the current activities scheduled and provide support for the additional personnel mentioned above. The bulk of Phase III activity takes place during the second year of the project. The willingness of USAID to look at the needs of Counterpart in the final 2 years of Phase III is highly appreciated.

Counterpart conducts quarterly Country Director meetings that include regional staff as participants. The Regional Director schedules time during the week to meet with each CD for several hours. During the 3 days of meetings current program activities are summarized and it provides a chance for the regional staff to make comments and suggest changes. The meeting that took place during this quarter, June 4-6, included the introduction of the new CD for Tajikistan, Randall Olson, a guest appearance of Glenn Anders, the USAID/CAR Mission Director, as well as routine financial updates, and other program planning sessions. A concentration of the meeting was the review of the Financial Sustainability – Network Visioning activity that was currently in progress in the region.

During the quarter the Regional Director traveled to Uzbekistan 3 times, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Turkmenistan each once. Several CSSCs were visited during the travel which proved to be valuable for understanding issues facing the Centers at this time.

The Financial Sustainability and Network Visioning workshops that took place during this quarter included the development of strategic plans for Hub Centers and CSSCs. This effort although time consuming and labor intensive will prove to be one of the most significant activities during Phase III in the process of localization. Counterpart was fortunate to have a volunteer consultant, Ed LeClair, travel to all countries to provide support from the private business point of view during the last part of the series of exercises.

With the facilitation of a series of Strategic Planning and Financial Sustainability workshops and follow-up sessions in all five Central Asian countries, Counterpart took a major step in the process of establishing sustainable localized Centers linked into networks. The workshops and follow-up sessions were conducted by consultant Dmitry Grigoriev of the Marshak Foundation, with staff from Hub Centers plus representatives from all Civil Society Support Centers. In Parts I and III of the Workshop the consultant traveled to each country to provide training assistance and consultant services in the development of the Plans.

Following the workshop, each Hub Center and Support Center finalized a draft of their own strategic and financial sustainability plan after conducting additional market research. The Consultant and Regional OD Advisor then returned to each country to conduct 2-day consulting sessions during which every hub center and support center received intensive individualized consulting on their draft plans.

Hub centers and Support Centers are now finalizing their strategic and financial sustainability plans which will be for a two-year period starting October 1, 2001 and ending September 30, 2003. The plans extend six months beyond the March 30, 2003 project end date to help ensure that each Center has a viable strategy for sustainability.

With the assistance of OD PCs, Hub and Support Centers will also create 6-month Strategic Action Plans to go into effect in October. These Strategic Action Plans, incorporating newly-identified goals for localization and sustainability with existing goals for implementing Phase III project activities, will replace the current Action Plans for Capacity-Building and Service Delivery. Each month, Support Centers will report to Hub Centers on their accomplishment of Strategic Action Plans, allowing Hubs to closely monitor and evaluate program implementation and progress towards localization and sustainability.

Counterpart continues to cooperate with a number of international organizations. A plan is close to being finalized for Counterpart to transfer funds from Almaty to Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan for ISAR. INTRAC is in the process of starting a new phase of their activity to support NGOs, specifically support organizations. Some of the targets are working with Counterpart currently resulting in added support for CSSCs. Plans are being discussed to provide training and other capacity building support to the ISAR Resource Center in Atyrau. Global Training programs have been ongoing with Counterpart as an organizing partner. This effort is quite demanding and time-consuming but the results are quite good.

Providing training and consultation in Strategic Planning was identified as a key skill for OD PCs, for they will take the lead in advising Centers and following up on the implementation of strategic plans. In addition to the experience they gained as staff members involved in developing Hub Center strategic plans, OD PCs participated in the follow-up consultations provided by the consultant and Regional OD Advisor. Another tool for OD PCs will be a workbook detailing the Strategic Planning/Financial Sustainability methodology used in the workshops that is being prepared by the consultant. This workbook will be a resource for OD PCs as they consult with Support Centers, focus NGOs, and future clients.

The Regional OD Advisor met with staff in each country to discuss OD assessment and consulting experiences and issues, and to help establish program teams consisting of Senior Program Officers, Program Coordinators for Organization Development, Community Outreach and Training, and Grant Managers. The process of case management (monthly program team meetings to analyze support center and focus NGO program activities and progress toward localization and sustainability, as well as to self-monitor the work of the program team) was formally introduced. Program teams will report to the OD Advisor on the results of monthly case management meetings, beginning in July for the month of June.

Planning continued for the Governance Conference to be held in October. A survey/focus group questionnaire was distributed to each country to get input from Support Centers and focus NGOs on local forms of governing bodies, perceived benefits and detriments of strong governing bodies, and preferences for topics to be included in either the conference or the advanced training on governance that will be developed by Counterpart.

Two analytical reports using OD assessment data were designed, the first to show changes in institutional capacity between OD assessments (conducted every 6 months), the second to highlight which capacity areas are strongest and weakest for different types of OD “clients” (Support Centers, focus NGOs, health NGOs). This second report will allow us to identify capacity-building needs and seek resources and/or design interventions to target the areas of greatest need.

On April 9-13 training in **Community Mobilization and PRA/PCA Methods** was held in Osh, Kyrgyzstan. CSSCs and NGO representatives from KZ, KG, TJ and UZ were introduced to the concept of CM and PCA, trained in planning, organizing and conducting PCA, developed skills to mobilize community and facilitate group processes. Lola Abdusalyamova, Regional Community Outreach Coordinator, conducted the training with assistance from two Community Outreach Coordinators Erkina Ubysheva (Kyrgyzstan) and Bobur Turdyev (Uzbekistan). A manual on how to conduct PCA was developed in this training.

Regional TOT in Advanced Financial Accountability with the Contract Trainer Svetlana Shamdudtinova, Almaty and Yana Dobronravova, Regional Deputy Financial Director was held in Almaty from April 30 - May 2. There were 17 participants - Financial Managers, Grant Managers and Contract Trainers from 5 countries. During the workshop participants were trained in three areas of financial accountability - budgeting, internal control and donor reporting. A newly developed training module on Financial Accountability was tested and reviewed by Contract Trainers. In addition, Regional Finance Director Bob Abma along with Ms. Dobrobrvova conducted meetings with Grant/Finance Managers to discuss financial issues in each country, and Lola Abdusalyamova, Regional Community Outreach Coordinator conducted a mini-training for Grant Managers on CAG policies and procedures.

In this quarter, the Regional Finance Director and Deputy Finance Director took oversight travel to Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Kyrgyzstan. One of the purposes of this travel was to complete the installation of a new accounting software package. This process started in January 2001 and was completed in May. Before the installation of this package, the various Hub Centers were using different, often incompatible, accounting software. With this software, all Counterpart projects in Central Asia in all countries are reporting using a uniform accounting package. This reduces the possibility of error and inconsistent reporting.

Also as part of the oversight travel, a potential problem in the format of grant documentation files was identified. While all appropriate grant documentation was in place, it was presented in several different formats. Each Hub Center was using standard forms and guidelines, but the actual grant files were not organized in a way that was easy for an auditor to review. This situation would have made auditing the grant files and documentation very difficult and time consuming. As a result of identifying this potential problem, a standardized format for the presentation of grant files and grant documentation within the files was developed and put into place. An auditor, or anyone who needs to review grant documentation for all active project, can now find a standard presentation of grant documentation between countries and projects.

Reporting database creation has been completed as well as the Web interface to have access to the above database. At the present, copies of the database are sent to the other four CAR offices and installed. Reports starting from January 2001 to the present moment are being collected and imported into the database of each Hub Center. It is expected that country database copies will be forwarded to the Regional Office on a monthly basis.

KAZAKHSTAN

The Hub Center signed long-term agreements with the Support Centers starting from April 1st, 2001. CSSCs staff were introduced and trained on the new reporting system, including database management.

The Hub Center recommended three people – Abay Myrkhin from Aktobe, Dima Dey from Kostanay and Natasha Terekhova from Ust-Kamenogorsk – to attend an International Conference in Novosibirsk, Russia. Gulmira Beketova from Semey was approved for an International Visitors program to go to the USA next quarter.

The 7th Civil Society Support Center is still under review. The previous negotiations with ISAR to join our efforts in Atyrau were continued; however, the main problem is the lack of funds to establish a 7th CSSC. We are currently seeking additional funds.

Kazakhstan staff conducted Impact and Success Stories training for CSSCs managers. During the training CSSCs staff improved skills on collecting, analyzing and writing success stories, and discussed achievements of Phase III in terms of impacts and success stories.

Some staff changes have been made since the beginning of the quarter:

- Maiya Tsyganenko's position was changed from Senior Program Officer to Program Director, allowing her to supervise program staff more efficiently;
- Jamila Assanova added training coordination responsibilities to her OD responsibilities as OD activity is closely connected with training and Ms. Assanova has great experience to manage the two areas;
- Galym Zhukupbaev was moved to Zhalgas Center as a program coordinator from his training coordinator position within the Hub Center;
- The Grant Manager's job description was expanded to include financial accountability responsibility, thus allowing more effective financial control;
- Juliya Anishenko is on maternity leave, leaving her responsibilities to be covered by Yana Dobronravova and Lena Neudakhina;
- New contracts with Kazakhstan staff have been signed since the beginning of May 2001; and
- Analyzing needs and requirements of program staff, we have opened new vacant position Program Assistant instead of Training PC. It is necessary to have a person who will be able to provide technical assistance to program staff as well as to have an assistant involved in OD issues, given the magnitude of OD tasks.

Organizational Development

Two OD case management meetings were conducted this quarter where OD team discussed achievements and problems (challenges) in target organizations and drafted action plans from the Hub Center. Such meetings were conducted for the first time, that's why a format and procedures of Case Management Meeting was developed and approved. All PCs, including the grant manager and the program assistant, actively participated in the meetings. The program team discussed CSSCs monthly reports and Focus NGOs quarterly reports, with an emphasis on organizational capacity building and implementation of action plans, which were developed last quarter.

OD assessment of all focus organizations was completed; one of the last was NGO's Confederation in Astana, but an Action Plan for Capacity Building has been developed. Particular attention was paid to the section concerning governing bodies, in anticipation of the regional conference on Governance. OD database matrices for all target organizations (10) have been completed and a schedule and the model of OD reassessment for CSSCs was developed.

A regular quarterly meeting of CSSCs managers was conducted on June 26. At this meeting, issues such as implementation of the community outreach program, management of CAG program, reporting, and database maintenance were discussed. CSSCs were also given the opportunity to share experiences. The Astana CSSC made a presentation about rules and procedures of work with clients.

Community Outreach Program

Approbation the PCA Model in Kazakhstan Regions

The PCA model developed earlier was successfully applied in different regions of Kazakhstan where CSSCs operate. PCA/CAP trainings were conducted for the first time in Kostanai CSSC (Northern Kazakhstan), April 23-26, Aktobe CSSC (Western Kazakhstan) May 17-19 and Oskemen (East Kazakhstan) May 24-26. More than 60 NGOs representatives and initiative groups took part in them and gained knowledge and skills how to provide participatory assessment of communities' needs. Initially before training Nurlan Zhumabekov, the community outreach coordinator, and CSSC manager conducted a roundtable with NGOs representatives and initiative groups. The Community Outreach Program was presented and ways of participation in it were discussed on the roundtable. During training 9 PCAs in Kazakhstan regions were conducted where communities defined their needs and marked ways how to solve problems.

Start-up Community Action Grants Programs

After PCA/CAPs were held in the regions, CSSCs started to consult NGOs representatives and communities on Project Design in order to submit proposals to Counterpart in accordance with the CAG Program. At the same time the Hub Center provided consultations to CSSCs on how to apply

proposals. The First Grant Committee consisted of experts from international donor organizations and NGOs and was held on May 28 in Almaty. Three of seven proposals were approved with the remaining four returned for revision. The second meeting will be held next quarter, July 10.

Monitoring Community Mobilization Component

During the standard CSSC manager's meeting Nurlan Zhumabekov, the community outreach coordinator and Dana Amanova, the grant manager, presented the main topics and achievements of the Community Outreach Program, including Community Mobilization component (solicitation procedures, identification of communities, etc.). It was strongly recommend to CSSCs to conduct training in Project Design after PCA/CAP to assist in the development of proposal writing skills. General issues in terms of proposal submission under the CAG Program were explained to CSSCs highlighting the following categories: description of present situation or problem, sustainability of the project, budget issues, emphasizing on community's contribution, M & E and reporting.

June 29-30 CSSCs Managers and Coordinators participated in the advanced training on Volunteerism, which should help CSSCs to facilitate volunteerism movement on places.

Network Development

During the last quarter Hub Center staff focused on the strategic planning process that began with the first workshop facilitated by Dmitry Grigoriev from Marshak Foundation in Moscow. Participants were country-level program and administrative staff from the Hub Center and CSSCs. Two contract trainers also attended the workshop, as they will likely work as consultants on strategic planning issues in the future. During the workshop their roles were focused additionally on consulting the Zhalgas and Astana CSSCs. After the workshop it was decide to gather people interested in strategic planning and organize a working team. The working team was divided into several small groups in accordance with the main directions and set to meet on a weekly basis. During the two months following the initial workshop the working team collected necessary information and drafted the Kazakhstan Strategic and Financial Sustainability Plan.

During the third strategic planning session in June the drafted strategic plan was revised and polished. One more important aim was to compare and bring together Hub's plan with Partner Centers' plans in terms of network building. According to the timeline the Kazakhstan Strategic Plan should be done by the middle of October 2001.

Since the beginning of April there were two workshop/meetings with Support Centers staff. During the first meeting, which was a part of Strategic Planning workshop a model of Network had been discussed with them. One of the main conclusions was to develop horizontal links between Support Centers. As a follow up, the Support Centers have established a system of Informational and Electronic Library Exchange between CSSCs.

KYRGYZSTAN

Activity Overview

Civil Society Training and Technical Assistance

In line with institutional agreements with CSSCs, contract trainers conducted 23 training in 15 modules for 266 NGOs/CBOs (Attachment #2). Experienced CC contract trainers and CSSC Managers attended workshops to provide "on-the-job" coaching and to monitor quality of training. New reporting formats on training program, developed on a regional level, were introduced to Centers. The Hub Center is developing new monitoring and evaluation system for training activities, which is expected to be ready by the end of July.

The training module on NGO&Community was updated with a new session on legislation issues related to forming and running an NGO in Kyrgyzstan.

Forty-three representatives of local NGOs attended TOTs this quarter:

- On May 28-31, Bishkek CSSC managed TOT on Methodology for local NGOs conducted by contract-trainers Ms. Elena Tkacheva and Mr. Dmitry Vasilkov. 22 participants from 14 NGOs attended the TOT.
- On June 4-8, Talas CSSC organized TOT on Methodology for 21 representative of 10 local NGOs, conducted by Program Coordinators Erkina Ubysheva and Cholpon Akmatova.

Database

Counterpart has been redesigning the NGO database to meet new requirements. The main idea of the redesign is to create database distributed among the CSSC that would maintain records on local NGOs. The new database would work through the Web interface and will be installed in all CSSCs. Updated data will be mirrored on the server of the Hub Center. The new database will also include reporting data. To date, the Information Systems Manager and Internet Resource Assistant completed 40% of planned work, and it is estimated that beta version will be ready by mid August. As of June 30, the regional NGO database contained 2,957 records (1,064 of them are of Kyrgyz NGOs), 278 NGO profiles were updated and 14 new profiles were added.

Staff Development

- The Counterpart Training Coordinator C. Akmatova took part in the TOT in Micro Business conducted by NRC in Tashkent on April 9-19. A training module in business skills was developed. It was envisioned that the participants of the TOT would conduct at least 2 training seminars in each CSSC for individual refugees.
- On April 23-27, the EU Coordinator A. Doranova and Manager of Kara-Balta Center A. Kasymbekov took part in the training on Project Evaluation conducted by the trainers association ASIMO and funded by Eurasia Foundation. They obtained new skills in projects' monitoring and evaluation. Both of them are expected to develop a new training module for CSSCs. On June 17-21, the EU Coordinator A. Doranova attended the follow-up training workshop in Social Project Evaluation.
- The Financial Director E. Zapopadko and Grant Manager B. Orozaliev took part in the Financial Reporting training conducted by the CC Regional Office in Almaty on May 29-31. The training manual on Financial Accountability was revised and adapted to meet needs of local NGOs.

Organizational Development

Existing internal control procedures were reviewed, suggestions on improving them were made and sent to the Regional Office for approval. In line with the new regional requirements, double entry bookkeeping system was introduced in the Hub Center. A document of a fee for services was drafted and sent to the Regional Office for discussion. Counterpart has set up fees for training services and OD consultations for external clients.

The initial OD assessments were completed for 10 CSSCs (Batken, Bishkek, Kara-Balta, Kant, Karakol, Kerben, Jalalabad, Naryn, Nookat, and Osh). The Action Plans for Capacity Building and Service Delivery (CBP) were developed and finalized for 7 Centers. The Centers of Jalalabad, Kerben, Nookat have completed the Capacity Building section of the Plan and work on finalizing the Service Delivery section. The Talas Center plans are to complete the Plan during the first week of July 2001.

Two case management meetings were held in the Hub Center in order to assess progress in achieving programmatic goals, identify gaps, patterns and trends, and apply the learning to future OD work. These meetings were attended by all coordinators (USAID, EU, and Health Programs). Accomplishments of all CSSCs, focus NGOs and Health NGOs were discussed. The program coordinators made recommendations for further interventions for each case, and the general conclusion was made to pay more attention in assisting Centers in the planning process, since it was identified that in most cases their Action Plans on Building Capacity to Deliver Services need to be specified.

The OD PC indicated that conducting initial OD assessment and CBP developments for 21 organizations (11 CSSCs, 4 Focus NGOs, and 6 Health NGOs) was much labor and time consuming, it took almost 6 months to complete it. Probably, in case of Kyrgyzstan, OD assessment procedures can be managed to be shorter in order to have Counterpart staff able to conduct them more quickly but with a high quality.

Community Outreach

The Hub Center assisted all 11 CSSCs in developing and implementing short-term plans in Community Outreach (CO), consisting of the components: social partnership, volunteerism, community mobilization and advocacy. The Hub Center provided consultative support and coaching to CSSCs in selecting 56 target communities throughout Kyrgyzstan, conducting PCAs, CAPs, roundtables, and training seminars on social partnership. All CSSCs conducted PCAs in 25 target communities (46 in total since a beginning), assisted in developing 27 CAPs, and 22 CAGs (Attachment #3). The CSSCs were assisted in developing Stakeholders Teams, designing Stakeholders guidelines with focus on advisory functions of the members, stimulation of membership working in the Teams, and a rotation mechanism.

Challenges in implementing Community Outreach program are: 1) CSSCs need training in Participatory Monitoring & Evaluation (PME) since several CAGs have already been awarded, and 2) some CSSCs need to coordinate CO activities with EU and UNHCR-funded projects, which to certain extent have different approaches. To address those issues, a training seminar in PME is scheduled for July 2001, and CO PC will assist CSSCs in developing integrated CO plans, reflecting expectations of relevant donors.

The CAG review committee, consisting of 11 authorized representatives of CC, Urban Institute, MCI, UNDP and local NGOs, reviewed 22 funding proposals, and approved 18 of them totaling \$55,013, 3 projects were rejected and one proposal was shelved (Attachment #1). Additionally, 64 projects totaling \$125,129 were approved under the CPF grant program. The CPF staff together with CSSCs monitored the projects, 34 projects were completed successfully, and 30 projects are being implemented.

Network Development

Long-term ISG agreements were signed with CSSCs throughout Kyrgyzstan to establish creative partnership between CSSCs and the Hub Center (Attachment #1). This quarter new member joined to the network of CSSCs- Chernobyl Association of Nookat Rayon. The organization has been working with Counterpart since 1995 and recently started to provide initial services to the NGOs of Nookat Rayon, and its members decided to make agreement with CC in order to deepen and expand their services. A board of directors consisting of 7 members has been already established. The agreement with Nookat CSSC was signed in April 2001, and CC will provide support mostly for delivering training and staff development, while the Chernobyl Association will cover all operational expenses. Thus, eleventh member has joined to the network of CSSCs *at no operational costs*.

This quarter two country meetings were held, during which the CSSCs had a timeslot to discuss networking and exchange issues. The Managers of all CSSCs took part in the Strategic Planning training workshop conducted by the trainer D. Grigoriev of Marshak Foundation (Russia) in Bishkek on April 18-23. The goal was to transfer skills in developing a strategic plan for an organization, and designing a CSSC network model. The discussions resulted in drafting network rules. All Centers were assigned to draft an individual strategic plan as a homework by the follow-up meeting scheduled for end of June. This meeting took place in June 18-19, where Centers again worked on network visioning and presented drafts of their strategic plans, which should be finalized by the end of July 2001.

On June 20, a working meeting with participation of Counterpart program staff and CSSC managers was held in Bishkek. The Counterpart program coordinators (USAID, EU and Health program) consulted CSSCs staff in current program implementation. The CO Coordinator Erkina Ubysheva

discussed procedures on the CAG program emphasizing that the CSSCs should pay more attention to sustainability of submitted projects and shared recommendations of the first CAG Review Committee meeting. The Training Coordinator Cholpon Akmatova spoke about the training program, including work with contract trainers, planning training workshops and selecting participants. The OD Coordinator Vaslat Akhmedov presented the updated format of the Action Plan for Capacity Building and Service Delivery. The CSSCs managers also met with the Coordinator of Soros Foundation to discuss implementation of the training program funded by Soros.

New reporting formats were presented to CSSCs. The CSSCs face challenges in filling new reporting formats. The Information Systems Manager M. Nusurov designed and sent out a reporting manual for CSSCs to assist them in filling reports in Excel (report on indicators, report on training, and report on trainers). Currently, the Hub Center and CSSCs are working hardly on collecting data and producing reports for the past 6 months. After joint consultations, it was decided to introduce new format for *program (narrative) reports* starting next quarter. In addition, the CSSCs agreed on having unified forms for keeping records (visitors, consultations, etc.), and requested the Hub Center to collect all forms being used, draft new forms and send them out to Centers for comments and final approval.

TAJIKISTAN

Security Situation

Early April an anonymous terrorist group organized an explosion in a Dushanbe shop. There were no deaths but several wounded. The real tension started when the First Deputy Minister, Ministry of Interior, the United Tajik Opposition (UTO)'s influential leader was murdered. Later, suspects who turned out to be members of a former UTO's armed group were found and arrested. The armed group's leader Pahmon Sanginov who is one of the killer's brothers and member of his group started kidnapping people, mostly employees of Law Enforcement institutions, demanding the release of their combatants. Their last kidnapping was of German Agro Action's 5 international and 15 local staff 30 kilometers east of Tavildara District in Karategin Valley (175 kilometers east of Dushanbe). The Government and the UTO managed to obtain their release quickly. The situation in the East became more tense when Government forces started maneuvers to liquidate the group. Unofficial sources say that many civilians have suffered from the confrontation and the cleanings. All international organizations are recommended to avoid the insecure area. Counterpart warned its Partner NGOs of the high risk of operating in that zone now.

Activity Overview

In May new Country Director of Counterpart/Tajikistan, Randall Olson, started his assignment. The Regional Director Jay Cooper came to oversee Counterpart operating and meet with the new Director.

In April, Stephanie Sullivan Counterpart International Washington Office representative visited Counterpart Tajikistan to meet with the staff and the new Director. She was also interested in the implementation of the NGO Expand Program. There was a briefing with the program staff members on reporting, where she introduced a new reporting format for NGO and Civil Society Development Program. Ms. Sullivan visited some active target NGOs in Hissor and Kurghon – teppa regions.

The Regional Financial Director visited Counterpart/Tajikistan to conduct sessions with the financial staff on installation of a new computer program, audit grants, and consult staff members on administrative and financial issues.

Counterpart Tajikistan Grant Coordinator, Financial Officer and a contract trainer attended a regional Financial Accountability workshop. They were trained to give CSSCs the basic tools of budgeting, internal control analysis and financial reporting. Now they plan to conduct trainings and consultations on the above-mentioned matters with the CSSCs they work with starting from July. The aim of the

workshops is to develop more sustainable, effective and accountable structures of the CSSCs and establish direct relationships with international donors.

David Hoffman, Democracy Specialist from the USAID Regional Office visited Counterpart to meet with Counterpart's staff, assess the implementation of the CRD Program and observe NGO sector development in Tajikistan in general. A roundtable with active local NGOs located in Dushanbe and surrounding regions was organized at the Counterpart office.

Training request was developed, after which AED GTD sent out bids to the potential training providers in the Eastern Europe. Among the applicants Hungarian Foundation for the Development of Local Social Networks was selected. Counterpart selected 8 NGO representatives to participate in the workshop.

Grants

This quarter **NGO Support Grant** Guidelines for Tajikistan was developed. When developing the Grant Guidelines, Phase III Program requirements were considered. Since the major component of the program is Community Outreach, only NGOs with community mobilization capacity can apply for grants. Accordingly NGO Support Grant Policy and Grant Application Form were developed. The complete set of grant documents was sent to the CSSCs and through them the Grant Program was announced to the target NGOs. Counterpart expects to receive first grant proposals for review in August.

Organizational Development

This quarter Counterpart completed OD assessments with all five CSSCs. Individual interviews and a roundtable with the stakeholders were conducted in each area. Through the OD interventions Counterpart Coordinators collected data on strengths and weaknesses of each CSSC and analyzed it. Based on that data feedback on key issues and capacity- building needs was given to CSSC members. Furthermore, the OD coordinators assisted CSSCs in developing an Action Plan for Capacity Building.

One of the issues, which caused a lot of debates and discussions in this meeting and other individual consultations, was the ability of CSSCs to become sustainable by the end of the current year and do the Phase III and other programs, particularly CRD program, which inquires CSSCs involvement. Especially, if to consider CSSCs limited budget and human resource carrying out these two kinds of activities, many of the Centers thought it was impossible. But during the consultations solutions were found. First of all the CSSCs revised their management/administration systems cutting down on expenses. Some staff members were dismissed; some were given additional responsibilities. Generally, all the centers realized that it is better to have people in the staff that can do the program work and other administrative work as well. After the consultations each Center came with the realistic 1-year budget, which was approved by the Country Director. Also each CSSC leader presented its strategy to achieve the sustainability. The results of the consultations were satisfactory because many of the CSSCs started doing practical things for the localization and sustainability and started to look at things from the economical point of view.

A lot of discussions held among the staff members this quarter around the Dushanbe CSSC. Some doubts occurred regarding the sustainability of the Center, as many resources went into the development of this Center. After research on the Center, the new Counterpart leadership decided to change the situation in the Center by dismissing the Director of the Center.

Counterpart outlined two ways to resolve NGO support in Dushanbe: Unite the Center with some other existing and successfully working Center, such as Business Center under AED. The new Country Director had previously talked to the leaders of AED regarding this issue. The second way was that one of the coordinators of the Counterpart would take the responsibility to become the leader of the Center and for a short period of time and work out a practical strategic plan to achieve

sustainability of the Center. Kiomiddin Davlatov, the Training Coordinator in Counterpart had shown the initiative to become the leader of the Center and was assigned the post of Acting Director of Dushanbe CSSC.

Community Outreach

The Regional Community Outreach Coordinator visited Tajikistan to share experience on Community Outreach with Counterpart staff by giving a presentation of the Mahalla Initiative Program in Uzbekistan. That concurred with TOT on PCA in Dushanbe so Ms. Abdousalymova had an opportunity to facilitate the workshop along with local trainers. In addition, she conducted a session with the participants—the members of CSSCs—where she talked of other countries' experience in Community Outreach. In their turn, Tajik colleagues presented their results and achievements. The RCO Coordinator also spelled out some practical components of Community Outreach in addressing the participants inquires. All participants benefited from the workshop.

Besides regular trainings Counterpart conducted 3 TOTs this quarter in PCA, Coalition Building, and Volunteer Management. The participants of the TOTs were contract trainers and CSSCs members who are supposed to conduct these trainings with target NGOs in the regions. Further, Counterpart coordinated GTD training workshop on Community Outreach for Tajikistan.

Counterpart is planning to finalize the **Community Action Grant** Guidelines for Tajikistan in the beginning of August. It will be based on the guidelines developed by the regional office but with some changes. However, it will be sent to the Headquarters for approval before it is launched.

Counterpart and the *Center of Volunteer Initiatives* initiated and held a National Conference titled "Development of Volunteer Movement in Tajikistan" in Dushanbe where 110 representatives of local NGOs from all over the country participated. Center of Volunteer Initiatives formed by three local NGOs—*Manizha*, *Najot-2000* and *National Association of Independent Mass Media (NANSMIT)*—conducted such a big event on volunteerism for the first time and it was devoted to the International Year of Volunteer.

The main goal of the Conference was to promote the development of volunteerism in Tajikistan through sharing experience among NGOs on volunteer management and working out concepts of sustaining volunteers in Tajikistan.

The first section of the Conference was devoted to the successful examples of using volunteers by local NGOs. In the second section the participants had group-discussions on the ways of developing the volunteer movement in Tajikistan. By the end of the Conference the participants scrutinized Concepts of Developing the Volunteer Movement in Tajikistan. The concepts include 11 recommendations for NGOs to improve the volunteer movement in Tajikistan that include such concept as to create a network of volunteer centers throughout the country.

One of the most significant points of the Conference was a discussion on utilizing volunteer potentials in communities; a number of NGOs from the South working with refugee and IDP communities presented examples of effective use of volunteers in communities. In this regard the conference participants recommended using traditional forms of volunteer labor in Tajik communities.

Network Development

Counterpart key staff and CSSCs leaders participated in Financial Sustainability (Strategic and Business Planning) and Network Visioning workshops. Dima Grigoriev from Marshak Foundation and Elizabeth Comolli and Edward LeClair from the regional office helped facilitate the workshops. The goal of the workshops was to assist the Hub Center and the CSSCs to develop Strategic and Financial plans and create a common vision of a future network/association. After the workshop the Hub Center and the CSSCs were instructed to finalize their strategic plans for 2 years and 6 months action plans.

Questions related to Network Development were hotly debated at two Financial Sustainability workshops. The core of the matter for the Hub Center and the CSSCs was to decide what their vision of the network development is and how to achieve it. Through discussions in small groups the Hub Center and CSSCs presented their point of view on networks. Then they discussed the point of view of each participant and the most suitable version had to be chosen. The role of the Hub Center and its feasible funding of the CSSCs became an intriguing issue at the discussion, especially for the CSSCs. By the end of the first section of the Financial Sustainability workshop the participants came up with two various forms of future Network, but found it difficult to pick one on them. The first variant was about giving the Hub Center the coordinating role, especially in implementing country level projects. The CSSCs will be independent, especially in implementing separate projects in their regions. The supporters of the second variant insisted that all members of the Network should be equal. Each network member can write project proposals and get funding for them with a rotating role of coordinator, depending on who is the initiator of a concrete project. At the Financial Sustainability workshop Part II, when the role of the Hub Center and its perspectives became clear, the majority agreed on the first alternative.

The new Country Director Randall Olson exposed his vision of the localization and sustainability of the CSSCs. He encouraged the Centers to be more concerned of their sustainability and promising prognosis for the future and develop a real action plan and budget accordingly.

TURKMENISTAN

Activity Overview

During this quarter activities have centered on the question of how to achieve a physical network of CSSCs in Turkmenistan. Currently there are two functioning CSSCs: Ashgabad and Dashoguz that offer the full spectrum of services within the framework of Phase III. The remaining two CSSC locations of Lebap and Mary remain informal structures and the staff of both Centers have been dividing their time between Ashgabad and Dashoguz since have not been permitted to open up an office to visitors. Towards the end of the previous quarter, we were instructed to approach our start-ups in Lebap and Mary as we had in Dashoguz, by targeting one concrete project in each region in collaboration with the local authorities thereby implementing our community outreach program in a pilot geographical setting. Local Hakims of both regions indicated that following the successful implementation of pilot community projects, Counterpart would be allowed to open up full-fledged CSSCs.

Staff Development

- Mars Hasanov, Lebap CSSC Manager and 4 NGO representatives were sponsored by the Norwegian Refugee Fund to participate in the seminar "Emergency Preparedness" in Bishkek from April 4-6. This training was useful to understand the role of CSSCs to provide services for refugees and especially in emergency situations.
- From April 9-19 Nargiza Miyliyeva, Lebap CSSC Assistant and Gulzada Amanyazova, Financial Manager, participated in the Norwegian Refugee Council sponsored seminar entitled "Micro Business" which was conducted by UNHCR in Tashkent. They and a team of three Turkmen NGO representatives designed a mini project for refugees and a special training which has been conducted for CSSCs and refugee-focused NGOs.

Training Highlights

- During this period, 22 trainings were conducted for 326 participants from 233 NGOs.
- Out of the 22 workshops that were conducted, 18% (4) were conducted in Dashoguz while 4 trainings were organized and held by local NGOs at various locations in Ashgabad.

- Advanced training was provided to 4 target NGOs on the topic of Volunteer Management. This training was held at the request of four NGOs which identified volunteers as a priority focus as result of their current OD activities.
- Five days in May were devoted to Financial Sustainability/Strategic planning workshop for Counterpart staff. In addition, all staff participated in a one-day training on financial accountability while two staff and one contract trainer participated in the TOT for Financial Accountability at the regional level.
- The contract trainers pool was expanded to 25 trainers total this quarter with special effort to attract Turkmen-speaking NGO representatives.

Organizational Development

A full OD assessment was conducted in Dashoguz and served as the basis for the development of a six-month Action Plan. On April 30th both members of the Dashoguz CSSC team traveled to Ashgabad to participate in a meeting of all six CSSC staff members from the three regions. The OD Coordinator presented an overview of CSSC activities, and Program Coordinators and the Financial Manager conducted mini trainings on report writing and budget development. During the Ashgabad meeting there was discussion among CSSC staff members, the grant manager and the OD consultant on the history of the Dashoguz CSSC in which they described lessons learned, concerns, challenges, relations with government, and their vision of the overall picture of successful CSSC.

The staff of Mary and Lebap CSSCs were hired correspondingly in November 2000 February of this year. The workplans of these CSSCs have been modified several times due to the internal political context in the regions and tight monitoring from the security apparatus. Full-scale OD assessments are not feasible at this time since the offices are still not operational. Nonetheless, the staff of Mary and Lebap have received intensive on-the-job training and experience working in Ashgabad, Dashoguz, and on the Darganata pilot community development project.

Both Mary and Lebap CSSCs have developed Action Plans focused on strengthening capacity in service delivery by staff. In April, the Lebap CSSC Manager visited the Dashoguz for consultations and mini-training in following areas: 1) Bookkeeping; 2) Reporting; 3) How to work with clients and visitors of CSSC; 4) CSSC Lessons learned - relationships with organizations around including international, government, business, mass-media; and 5) What supplies and equipment are necessary for CSSC operations.

The list of target NGOs was reviewed and revised and reduced to fifteen. Six of the target NGOs are located in the velayats and the other eight NGOs have affiliates or beneficiaries in velayets. The strategy of work with target NGOs will include special meetings, workshops issues raised by target NGOs in financial accountability, management, human resources, constituency building and development of relations with stakeholders. Of the above-mentioned fifteen target NGOs, only eight NGOs will receive intensive organizational development assistance. OD will be divided by stages - assessment and diagnostic analysis, setting direction and goals in OD planning, implementing OD plan, evaluation and integration of lessons learned.

Community Outreach

The Community Outreach Program continued to unfold and build during the second quarter with some modifications. In the Ahal region, the Community Outreach staff held a series of five meetings with the hakim of Buzmein, a city some 25 km from Ashgabad. The purpose of the meetings was to explain the Community Outreach program and lay the groundwork for holding a PCA field training in four neighborhoods. Local authorities tentatively approved the training activity and initial meetings were held with representatives from the four neighborhoods. Global Project staff will make all final arrangements and secure the necessary approvals as they are funding the program which will take place in mid-July.

In Lebap and Mary, the Community Outreach has taken a slightly modified approach which was negotiated with velayet authorities. Instead of conducting open-ended PCA/CAPs, the community mobilization activities will be focused on improvement of water, sanitation and hygiene infrastructure in schools. These small-scale projects are being developed by initiative groups consisting of parents and teachers in each school. The CSSC staff in both regions received intensive on-the-job training as well as formal training in meeting facilitation, training methodology, community action planning and CAG development from more experienced staff and contract trainers from the both Ashgabad and Dashoguz.

In the Darganata etrap of Lebap activities in the schools have moved along well in the 10 target schools, a grant review committee meeting will be held at the beginning of July. The committee will consist of representatives from local hykimlyk, NGOs, Counterpart, and other international organizations working in Lebap. Agreement was reached with velayet to hold one training activity and one social partnership roundtable per month in Turkmenabad and neighboring etraps starting in July. Also in Lebap, the Community Outreach staff initiated a PCA/CAP in a refugee community in Kirki as part of the collaboration with UNHCR.

In Mary, the water, sanitation and hygiene project was also initiated in 10 schools of Gara Gum etrap. Despite approval of local hakimlyk and receptiveness of the etrap level Board of Education and hakimlyk, the project activities have been temporarily suspended due to misunderstanding between regional and national internal security offices. Since the suspension, a number of meetings have been held with authorities in Mary and Ashgabad but to no avail. Staff continues to support other community outreach activities in Lebap and Ashgabad as well as attend further staff development activities.

Network Development

The Staff of the Hub Center and three CSSCs participated in several meetings and workshops related to Financial Sustainability and Network Development held in May and June. The vision and mission of the Turkmenistan program were reviewed and revised in accordance with strategic goals for the next two years. Staff in Turkmenistan are coming closer to achieving a common vision of role of CSSCs in an eventual network. Various models of what the network may look like were reviewed and compared.

The potential structure of the future Turkmenistan network was drafted as one organization with offices in four regions. Staff have begun to organize an external governing body which will provide a framework for decision-making within the network. Three CSSC staff members and one member of the Water User's Association Sarygymysh will attend the upcoming "Association Network Development" training in Novosibirsk in July.

UZBEKISTAN

Activity Overview

On April 2 and 3 the Counterpart Uzbekistan Country Director and some other Hub Center staff members visited the Bukhara CSSC and met with representatives of 28 Bukhara and Navoyi NGOs. NGOs praised the Support Center and Hub Center's work and assistance commenting that they were on the right path. NGOs put a special emphasis on the training of trainers for being very useful and correct strategy. They made a number of useful suggestions including conducting more NGO development and training seminars especially in rural areas. The representatives from the journalists' association requested the inclusion of programs for journalists as well. They also requested help in developing web pages for their NGOs. They were informed that they could have information about their organizations placed on CANGONet and they could receive support to develop their own web pages.

For the preparation of the new trainers three seminars on Methodology of Training of Adults was conducted in Tashkent, Bukhara and Nukus.

Six Counterpart contract trainers participated in the regional seminar for trainers “TOT on Micro-Business” conducted from April 9-19, organized by UNHCR in Uzbekistan jointly with the Norwegian Council on Refugees. The seminar was a successful motivator and has given new ideas for the module on “Financial Sustainability of NGOs”. Counterpart has signed an agreement with contract trainers Albina Sabirova and Sonya Kazakova to development the new module.

Two Grant Approval Committees were conducted. On the first one conducted on 26th of April not the whole network was present – only earlier established CSSCs for the reason newly established CSSC were busy with organizational matters and could not begin their work. At the second conducted on June 18-19 all seven CSSC participated. Tashkent CSSC presented their first project.

Information Exchange

Three issues of the bulletin *Initiative* were prepared and published as typographical and electronic versions during April - June 2001 in Russian (No 4 (32), 5 (33), 6 (34)). Three issues (No 3(17), 4 (18), 5 (19)) were also issued in the Uzbek language and one issue - the quarter edition Spring-2001 - in English. The edition of bulletins is: 500 copies in Russian, 300 - in Uzbek, 200 - in English. All issues of bulletins are placed in CANGO.NET: <http://www.cango.net/kg/uz> (in English) and <http://win.cango.net/kg/uz> (in Russian). Issued bulletins are distributed to 119 post addresses (in March, 2001 in the list there were 114 addresses). The list of addressees in an electronic format is increased up to 64 addresses (in March, 2001 there were only 50 electronic addresses) The number of electronic addresses increased due to the request of some NGOs to receive bulletins electronically with the purpose of acceleration of their delivery and addition of new addressees.

A web page for the NGO *Center of Preceptorship and Guardianship Beguborli* has been prepared and placed on the regional web site. Information from the NGO database was provided to the Japanese Embassy and NOVIB on NGOs working in the field of culture.

Staff Development

- Coordinators of Counterpart Kh.Kashaev and O.Boltaev participated in the Regional Training on Financial Accountability, conducted in Almaty from May 30 till June 2.
- On May 2 Community Outreach Consultant Ara Nazinyan conducted a training for Hub Center staff on how to develop a log frame. The scheme was given to the participants on how to plan activity by the means of a log frame. The Mahalla Initiative Project was considered through this method and some problems were discovered and solutions identified.
- Dina Mukhamadieva participated in the annual conference of International Organization of Trainers and Consultants "Intertraining" held in Moscow on June. In the frame of the Conference there was a TOT on "Team Management" conducted by trainers from St. Petersburg.
- Vildana Malyan, Information/Resource Manager, participated in the following actions organized by international organizations:
 - May, 4, 2001 - a meeting of the Head of Permanent Mission of the World Bank in Uzbekistan, Mr. David Piers, with Uzbek NGO representatives. At the meeting about 20 NGOs participated. The list of NGOs recommended for the meeting was submitted to Counterpart for input.
 - May, 30 – The UN organized seminar “Interaction of Non-governmental Organizations of Central Asia on the Struggle Against Drugs and Coordination of Efforts” in connection with their project – “The Control of Drugs and the Prevention of Criminality in Central Asia”. NGOs of all CAR countries working on these issues participated and the seminar resulted in the creation of a coordinating body.
 - June 6, 2001 – Presentation of the independent research report “Assessment of a Social and Economic Situation in Uzbekistan” prepared in cooperation with all UN agencies and programs. Copies of the report were supplied to all CSSCs.

Organizational Development

Initial Case Management meetings were conducted on June 13 and 15. There was review of two SCs: Nukus and Bukhara. The program staff commented on the process of the Case Management meetings and their input will be taken into account for future meetings. In all 19 organizations will be reviewed in case management meetings every month: 7 CSSCs, 5 Focus NGOs and 7 Health NGOs.

Four new CSSCs have been opened during the quarter. Urgench CSSC is our partner established on the base of NGO *Al Khorezmi-Vambery*, started its operation on April 16, 2001. Tashkent CSSC is also our partner, established on the base of *Tashkent Public Education Center* on May 2. Samarkand was also established on May 2 as our Branch. Namangan has already started its work as a Counterpart Partner.

May 14-18 the training on Financial Sustainability took place in Chimgan were all the CSSC and Hub Center staff members as well as external stakeholders such as Shukhrat Juraev – the Chairman of the Mahalla Committee of the Tashkent mahalla named after Burkhanov; and our partner – Training Center “Bilim va Jamiyat” participated. During the week in Chimgan 3-hour informal meeting of newly and earlier established CSSCs took place. On this meeting staff members of the old CSSCs made new ones familiarized with Counterpart activity and programs and answered all the nascent questions.

On May 31, 2001 an orientation meeting has been conducted for recently established CSSC staff and new grant committee members from all CSSCs. The goal of this meeting was to inform them about goals and objectives of two programs by means of briefing participants on Phase III and MIP principles, program cycle, grant process, work of the local grant review committee and the training program, distribute revised and updated program documents and give answers to their questions concerning MIP and Community Outreach Programs. Participants included CSSC staff and grant review committee members): Tashkent – 9 people; Samarkand – 2; Urgench – 8; Nukus – 2; Kokand – 4; Namangan – 1.

In the beginning of June local grant review committee meetings took place in the existing CSSC. Staff and committee members of the recently-established ones also participated in these events in order to get knowledge in conducting grant review meetings in their future activities:

Urgench CSSC staff, grant committee members, and the Hub Center Coordinator visited Nukus CSSC, and the Namangan CSSC; Tashkent CSSC staff and Hub Center Coordinator visited Kokand CSSC; and Samarkand CSSC staff, grant committee members and the Hub Center Coordinator visited the Bukhara CSSC.

Community Outreach

On June 25-29 Training on PCAP was conducted for Coordinators of the newly established CSSCs and facilitators from the number of NGOs where 2 Coordinators from Samarkand CSSC, 2 – from Tashkent CSSC, 1 – from Namangan CSSC, 2 – from Urgench CSSC and from Kokand CSSC – 1 participated.

The Integrated Documents of two programs – Community Mobilization and MIP was developed. The development of the given Documents was directed on the improvement of the interrelation of the two programs MIP and CO (Community Mobilization part). Documents covered Grant Making process, Implementation of the projects, Monitoring and evaluation.

The trainers-contractors conducted work on adaptation of the module on Project Design for the Mahalla Initiative Program (bringing situations in the correspondence with local conditions, development of variant of session on "Needs Assessment" with application of methods of PRA, appropriate application form).

Network Development

Two Network meetings were conducted. The first one on April 25 focused on the integration of the MIP and Phase III community outreach activities. The new integrated circle for both programs was outlined by the Hub Center and established CSSCs. Based on this meeting a package of documents was developed by the Hub Center describing the procedure for submitting, reviewing and approving projects. The Hub Center presented these materials to the CSSCs at the second Network meeting on June 20.

On June 21-22, 2001 there was a follow-up Financial Sustainability training. During this follow-up training consultations were given to every CSSC, Hub Center staff and our Partner (the Training Center *Bilim va Jamiyat*). After presentation of the draft strategic plans, the trainer familiarized the participants with the final format of the Plan, its components and how to draw up the Plan correctly. The recommended form of the budget has also been considered in detail. The Uzbekistan program anticipates having final two-year strategic plans by September 21, 2001 as well as a six-month Action Plan for Capacity Building.

Customized assistance was provided to the recently established CSSCs in Urgench, Samarkand, Namangan and Tashkent on questions of registration of visitors, cataloguing documents on registration both electronically and in hard copy, giving consultations, and preparing report documents on services. For the purpose of help in giving consultations the following documents were directed to the CSSCs: the law on NGOs, the law on self-government institutions, the law about religious organizations, the charter form, the rules of registration, tax privileges for NGOs, a list of international organizations located in Uzbekistan and potential donors abroad, and information about new Grant programs accessible to Uzbekistan, in particular about Canadian funds and the Canadian program "Partnership for Tomorrow". All the CSSCs are supplied with brochures about Counterpart programs. 35 books on NGO subject were sent to the Urgench CSSC

D. CIVIL SOCIETY SUPPORT CENTER OVERVIEW

KAZAKHSTAN

1. Zhalgas-Counterpart, Almaty Oblast, Almaty

Community Outreach

- For the past period CSSC staff helped several communities conduct PCAs. In total 11 PCAs were conducted in various communities, both urban and rural, resulting in 8 CAPs. As a result of needs assessment two proposals from NGO "Baspana" were submitted to Counterpart. One of them is construction of a sports site for organization of youth leisure and the second one is the installation of an independent heating system. The Grant Committee approved both proposals.
- Training on Project Design was conducted on June 11-13 in order to strengthen skills of NGOs and communities in proposal writing for effective participation in CAG program.
- Along with working with urban communities Zhalgas started to work with rural communities in cooperation with "Rural Women's Union of Talgarskiy Raion". They visited rural communities in Shelek and Kok Tjube of Almatinskaya oblast where specific problems of rural communities were revealed and plans of actions were developed as a result of the PCAs. 11 consultations on project development were conducted in preparation of a proposal submission to the next grant review committee.

Volunteerism

- There is a steady stream of at least five volunteers working in Zhalgas. Further, the leader of the NGO *Legal Initiative*, Andrey Andreev, provides legal consultations on a voluntary basis to NGO visitors of the Center on a weekly basis.

Internal Capacity Building

- The CSSC together with the Hub Center conducted a presentation of the Phase III program at an open house of the new office space for more than 70 representatives of NGOs and international and state organizations.
- CSSC now has adequate staff on board with clear job responsibilities. A new program coordinator and a new program assistant started to work in Zhalgas in April 2001 which considerably improved program implementation. Internal reporting procedures and information flow systems have been developed within the Center. New rules and procedures for working with clients were developed, including selection procedures for training.
- Considerable assistance in proposal writing to Zhalgas staff was provided from program staff of the Hub Center.

2. Astana Civil Society Support Center, Akmola oblast, Astana

Activity Overview

- One of the main achievements of the CSSC this quarter has been the increase of clients to 399 people.

Community Outreach

- In April the Astana Center presented the CAG program for local NGOs and communities. CSSC staff, together with the trained NGOs, conducted 6 PCAs which resulted in two proposals from the NGO *Ana Alakany* and KSK *Paritet*. The CSSC emphasized its work on mobilization of urban communities through KSKs.

Volunteerism

- On June 30, CSSC staff, VSO volunteers Tim and Claire Healing, and a local volunteer group, stormed the city park to promote volunteerism and NGO issues among the local population.
- CSSC staff provided mini-trainings and consultations for NGO representatives and are in the process of creating a booklet on volunteerism.

Internal Capacity Building

- CSSC staff was trained on Strategic Planning issues, Volunteerism and Impact and Success Stories. They received consultations on strategic planning, working with communities during visits of Hub Center representatives in Astana and their visits in Almaty.
- The library of the CSSC, especially legal literature, has been considerably expanded. There has been a re-registration of literature and videocassettes in the Center.
- The CSSC involved new trainers from Semipalatinsk, Karaganda and Kostanai.
- In this quarter Inna Domat, the regional reporting officer, Jamila Assanova, the program coordinator and Maiya Tsyganenko, the program director, visited the CSSC in Astana. Results of these visits were consultations on strategic plan developing, reporting writing, database maintenance, and monitoring of training program.
- This past quarter a strategic and financial sustainability plan was developed. The main questions were relations between the Hub Center and the CSSC and the legal status of the CSSC, as it is considered a branch Center not a separate entity.
- The Center signed an agreement between VSO volunteers Claire and Tim Healing. Claire will operate as an OD adviser, while Time will cover community outreach issues.
- The Action Plan for Capacity Building and Service Delivery has been updated to include activities through September, reflecting changes in the areas of Governance and Human Resources Management.

3. Entrepreneurship Development Agency “SMEDA”, Aktobe oblast, Aktobe

Activity Overview

- The NGO database has been updated and currently includes 44 NGOs in Aktobe.
- SMEDA continues to rely on contract trainers from Almaty for more advanced skills. The newly trained contract trainers from Aktobe focus on basic training modules such as NGO & Community and NGO Management.
- Together with Department of Information and Public Accord the CSSC conducted a roundtable on social problems in Kazakhstan. As a result, a coordination council was created, comprised of representatives from NGOs, officials, commercial structures and media. This council will lead discussion and decision-making on social problems, and will be involved in the distribution of budgetary funds for the implementation of social programs.

Community Mobilization

- From May 17-19 the Center conducted a training on PCA/CAP for representatives of local NGOs and initiative groups. In all four PCAs were conducted this quarter, resulting in one CAP. After conducting a PCA the initiative group *XXI Century* were able to attract the attention of officials to problems of single mothers who live at a hostel. As a result, the Oblast State Fund *Akbobek* allocated 12 passes for summer camp for children of these women.

Volunteerism

- A database of volunteers was developed for the Aktobe Oblast. In addition, procedures were developed for how to work with volunteers.

Internal Capacity Building

- CSSC staff took a part in various trainings coordinated by the Hub Center in Volunteerism and Financial Sustainability, the regional PRA/PCA training in Osh, and Project Design training organized by Ecolinks.
- During this quarter CSSC employees from Astana and Kostanai visited the Center – thus increasing the sharing of lessons learned and the networking capacity of the Centers.

4. Nuclear Tests Victims Union “IRIS”, East-Kazakhstan oblast, Semey

Activity Overview

- CSSC staff drafted a proposal on NGOs promotion through Mass Media and submitted it to USIS.
- Within the framework of network development the CSSC invited ZUBR representatives Vitaly Kulik and Julia Titarenko to conduct training together with IRIS trainers in Semipalatinsk. Additionally, on the basis of NGOs needs assessment, legal service was organized with assistance of a lawyer Julia Titarenko from ZUBR.
- IRIS has expanded its services to include consultations to other organizations interested in NGO support in Semipalatinsk.

Community Outreach

- A plan for working with communities in the Semipalatinsk region was developed. Three PCAs, including 2 PCA in rural communities, were conducted and resulted three CAPs submitted to Counterpart. The grant review committee highlighted these three proposals as the best. One of them was approved for funding (“Cultivation of Potatoes” focusing on the sustainability of a school for visually impaired children and elderly invalids).
- The majority of consultations demanded for the past quarter were proposal development and budgeting issues. Consultations were given to the following NGOs and initiative groups: *HOPE*, *Tatar National Centre*, *Begen* village, *Bolshaya Vladimirovaka* village, *Hospis*, and *Semipalatinsk Initiative Women*. As an indicator of strengthening of attention to the community mobilization program, trained NGOs representatives and initiative groups carry out PCA independently for their communities.

Internal Capacity Building

- Jamila Assanova, the program coordinator, Dana Amanova, the grant manager and Nurlan Zhumabekov, the community outreach coordinator, visited the CSSC in this quarter. As a result of the visit, job responsibilities of staff employees were developed, SWOT analysis was made, monitoring and evaluation of fresh trainers was completed and one contract with a new trainer was signed.
- During her visit the grant manager conducted an inventory of equipment and assisted in establishing of financial systems in accordance with international standards.
- The system of organizing the files has been developed with the following major categories: correspondence, organizational development, community mobilization, training, contacts and other. It considerably facilitates in implementation of Phase III Program.
- Procedures and rules of work with clients were developed.
- Three volunteers work in the center at the present moment.
- CSSC staff took part in a training on Volunteerism held in Almaty June 29-30. As a follow-up the staff reconsidered working with volunteers. Training in Volunteerism is a priority for the Center next quarter.

5. Consulting Center “ZUBR”, East-Kazakhstan oblast, Oskemen

Activity Overview

- The Center provides legal-accounting services to NGOs once a week.
- CSSC manager was invited as a facilitator and a leading trainer for the seminar "Information Resources for Women in Rural Areas" Participants learned about PCA methodologies. As a result of the seminar, the women's federation *Status* was organized.
- Within the framework of social partnership activity ZUBR participated in organization and working of the monthly Dialogue Club. Participants of the club are representatives of noncommercial organizations and state structures (Department of Social Protection of Population, State-Legal Department, Department of Education, Department of Public Policy and Social Issues of City Akimat, Department of Industry and Trade). Recent meeting highlighted the following issues: interaction between officials and noncommercial organizations in terms of state social order and the absence of legislation regulating taxation for NGOs. A presentation of the Community Outreach program was conducted at these meetings.
- In June ZUBR's staff took part in Coordination Council on Youth Policy, created at the city Akim. A program on volunteerism development and establishing of a clearinghouse was presented to the council. It was decided to present Volunteerism concept to the council in September.

Community Outreach

- ZUBR carried out a press conference in May 22 with a presentation of the Community Outreach Program for Oblast and City Mass Media representatives to strengthen the PR component.
- Training in PCA/CAP was conducted May 24-26. The majority of participants were from children's and teenagers' clubs and the *KSK Association*, which directly work with communities. Five representatives from smaller cities in Eastern Kazakhstan also participated in the training. Thus demonstrating the expansion of CSSC clients and involvement of new organizations in the community mobilization program.
- The trained organizations actively applied PCA methods to their activities. *KSK Association*, the Support Women Center *Nezabudka* and other NGOs conducted three PCAs. CSSC staff consulted PCA in communities. Also NGOs were consulted on a proposal writing proposals.

Volunteerism

- This past quarter the CSSC attracted three new volunteers from students of the Faculty of Foreign Languages and the Faculty of Law. As a result the Center has developed a system and procedures for managing volunteers.
- *KSK Association's* manager is involved as an expert to provide performance management for volunteers and systemize development of volunteerism. The first step was training "NGO & Volunteer" the purpose of which was training volunteers in how to work with NGOs.

Internal Capacity Building

- Weekly staff meetings are conducted to coordinate and manage CSSC activities. The staff keeps a calendar of activities, which helps with time management and planning.
- CSSC initiated creating of Expert Council in order to select people to participate in Summer School on Public Processes Management. Potential members of the council are NGOs representatives, officials, commercial structures and Mass Media.
- Documentation on CSSC activities is composed according to directions and services. A logbook of rendered services is kept. Staff worked out a table "Account of current expenses" for analysis and control of money.
- Two volunteers are involved in activities of the Center.
- For the past period considerable support from the Hub Center emphasized project design and working with communities. Also the Hub Center representatives assisted the CSSC in developing proposals, and clarifying the role of the CSSC in the community mobilization program.

6. Association of NGOs of Kostanai oblast, Kostanai

Activity Overview

- Contracts were signed with two new local trainers.
- From May to June the association was under preparation for upcoming public hearings in Oblast Maslikhat. One subject discussed at the hearings was support and development of the third sector in the region. Within the framework of preparation the CSSC conducted two meetings with NGOs and state representatives where the American experience and other questions were discussed.
- CSSC staff took a part in the Youth Forum's Coordination Council where regional youth issues were debated. In June they helped to youth NGO to carry out an international meeting-action.
- International volunteers are actively involved in CSSC activities. Two volunteers from Canada and USA conducted a training on communication skills, which was developed in accordance with the NGO's needs. In April the Canadian volunteer conducted a workshop on the "Basics of Social Work".
- This quarter the Center supported all incoming NGOs through consultations, many of which were in how to apply to donors and how to legally register.

Community Outreach

- From April 23-26 the Center conducted training in PCA/CAP for NGOs representatives to update their knowledge of PCA methods. During the training 3 PCAs were conducted. After the training local NGOs together with CSSC conducted 5 PCAs and developed 1 CAP into a proposal.

Internal Capacity Building

- CSSC staff was educated on Volunteerism in June 29-30. Nurlan Zhumabekov, the community outreach coordinator, assisted the CSSC staff in project design and community outreach topics.
- CSSC developed a strategic and financial sustainability plan together with contract trainers and NGO representatives.
- CSSC initiated a meeting of Board of Trustees where the main activities were divided between members of the board.
- Human Resources Development systems were created and job descriptions for employees were finalized.

Table of Services

Service	<i>Zhalgas Almaty.</i>	<i>Astana CSSC</i>	<i>SMEDA Aktobe</i>	<i>Kostanai CSSC</i>	<i>IRIS Semey</i>	<i>ZUBR Oskemen</i>
Number of visitors	91	150	104	192	127	56
Number of visits	341	399	275	299	216	97
Number of NGOs receiving services	160	77	53	63	82	35
Number of CBOs, initiative groups receiving services	4	38	14	6	12	25
Number of volunteers recruited for NGOs	2	0	0	4	0	0
Number of trainings	11	8	6	7	4	6
Number of consultations	27	30	95	100	92	82
Number of Computer/Internet/E-mail was used	536	199	71	19	13	7
Number of times copy machine was used	402	178	101	24	30	24
Number of copies	1081	5233	5512	429	440	250
Number of times Phone/Fax was used	68	57	70	27	8	2
Number of PCAs conducted	11	6	4	8	4	3
Number of CAPs developed	8	2	1	1	3	0

KYRGYZSTAN

Activity Overview

The initial OD assessments were completed for CSSCs of Batken, Bishkek, Kara-Balta, Kant, Karakol, Kerben, Jalalabad, Naryn, Nookat, and Osh. The Action Plans for Capacity Building and Service Delivery (CBP) were developed and finalized for 7 Centers. The Centers of Jalalabad, Kerben, Nookat have completed the Capacity Building Section of the Plan and are working on finalizing the Service Delivery Section. The Talas Center plans to complete the Plan during the first week of July 2001.

The Centers of Batken, Karakol, Naryn, Jalalabad, Osh, and Talas made short-term agreements with the Soros Foundation on delivering additional training to local NGOs in May 2001. The budgets cover training costs and administrative fees for the Centers, which will be conducting training seminars through their teams of contract trainers. Project extension is expected per successful implementation.

1. Batken CSSC (BT)

- The Center conducted PCA and facilitated CAP development in 4 target communities, which submitted 4 funding proposals, and all of which were approved. Seven training seminars were held for 146 representatives of 48 NGOs/CBOs.
- On May 21, the Batken Center together with local newspaper “Salam Asia” conducted roundtable “Education for refugee children” in the village of Chet-Bulak. Local school principals, refugee leaders, representatives of local NGOs, state educational departments, MCI coordinator, and UN coordinator attended the meeting. Participants discussed problems facing refugee children in getting primary and secondary education and ways of addressing them.
- The Manager of Batken CSSC N. Aldasheva took part in the TOT in Micro Business conducted by NRC in Tashkent on April 9-19. The Assistant of Batken Center Ms. A. Aikynova took part in the Strategic Planning workshop conducted by ADB in Jalalabad on May 3-4.

2. Bishkek CSSC (BS)

- In May 2001, the Center revised the list of target communities to include new communities instead of those, which were not responsive to the PCA-CAP process. This quarter, the Center conducted PCA in 3 target communities, development of CAPs was scheduled for July 2001. Five training seminars were held for 88 representatives of 70 NGOs/CBOs.
- On June 8, 2001, the Manager B. Muratalieva attended the roundtable on discussing the draft law on internal migration, hosted by the Bishkek Migration Management Center.

3. Jalalabad CSSC (JA)

- The Center conducted PCA in 6 target communities, and assisted 3 communities in CAP development. The target communities submitted 2 funding proposals, and both of them were approved. Eight training seminars were held for 186 representatives of 70 NGOs/CBOs.
- In May the Jalalabad Center received humanitarian aid of secondhand clothes sent by the former PC Volunteer Ms. Cathleen Stubbe from US. The clothes were distributed among 760 vulnerable people, including 195 refugees. The refugee NGOs Aimira, Sary-Kol, and Cholpon-Ata took an active part in distributing the aid.
- The Assistant of Jalalabad CSSC I. Gubaidullin took part in the TOT in Micro Business conducted by NRC in Tashkent on April 9-19.

4. Kant CSSC (KN)

- The Center conducted PCA in 4 target communities, and assisted 3 communities in CAP development. The Centers also assisted the refugee NGOs Sayron and Yntymak in receiving 5 MCI grants aimed at social infrastructure rehabilitation. Four training seminars were held for 89 representatives of 9 NGOs/CBOs.
- On June 14, the Kant Center hosted roundtable with participation of UNHCR, Young Lawyers Association and refugee leaders to discuss coordination of efforts of interested parties in assisting refugees to obtain Kyrgyzstani citizenship. The Center was given responsibility to serve as a hub in collecting information on refugees interested in having the citizenship of Kyrgyzstan, and refugee NGOs will be responsible for collecting information in the fields.

5. Kara-Balta CSSC (KB)

- The Center conducted PCA in 2 target communities. The Center was focusing on conducting Micro Business training for refugees and providing assistance to refugee NGOs in finalizing funding proposals for the Counterpart/UNHCR grant review committee. Four training seminars were held for 92 representatives of 20 NGOs/CBOs.
- On June 26, the Manager of Kara-Balta Center A. Kasymbekov took part in the public hearing on the town budget. This hearing was held with support of the mayor's office and Urban Institute. The Center made presentation on NGO activities and suggested inclusion of a separate budget line item for contracting NGOs to deliver public services.

6. Karakol CSSC (KR)

- The Center conducted PCA in all 6 target communities, and assisted 3 communities in CAP development. The target communities submitted 4 funding proposals, and 3 of them were approved. Two training seminars were held for 39 representatives of 20 NGOs/CBOs.
- The Center hosted a roundtable on advocacy campaign on June 21. The Center staff attended a special training workshop on budget hearings to participate in the city budget hearings in July.

7. Kerben CSSC (KE)

- To date, the Center conducted PCA in all 5 target communities, and assisted 1 community in CAP development. Three training seminars were held for 56 representatives of 30 NGOs/CBOs.
- On June 15, the Center conducted the social partnership roundtable with participation of 23 representatives of local governments, business and NGOs to discuss specific issues of local concern, such as contribution of local parties to rehabilitation of social infrastructure.

8. Naryn CSSC (NR)

- The Center conducted PCA and facilitated CAP development in 5 target communities, which submitted 4 funding proposals, and 3 of them were approved. Two training seminars were held for 48 representatives of 33 NGOs/CBOs.
- On April 10, the Center held the roundtable on establishing a volunteer center in Naryn. 23 representatives of local NGOs, UNDP, Urban Institute, and high schools took an active part in discussions, resulted in an agreement to establish a center in Naryn University, where students and the SIFE team will volunteer in creation of youth labor exchange.

9. Nookat CSSC (NO)

- Nookat CSSC started operations this quarter, and, after consultations with the Board of Directors, the staff selected two target communities. The Center conducted PCAs in these communities in May. This quarter no training seminars were delivered.

10. Osh CSSC (OS)

- The Center conducted PCA and facilitated CAP development in 5 target communities, which submitted 6 funding proposals, and 5 of them were approved. Three training seminars were held for 49 representatives of 26 NGOs/CBOs.
- On June 29, the Center hosted the meeting of 9 potential volunteers. The staff introduced them in the current activities of the Center, articulated expectations, and drafted working schedule for the volunteers. To date, 6 people volunteer for the Center on a regular basis.

11. Talas CSSC (TL)

- To date, the Center conducted PCA in 4 communities and facilitated CAP development in 3 target communities, which submitted 2 funding proposals, and both of them were approved. Two training seminars were held for 48 representatives of 33 NGOs/CBOs.
- Two staff members and 4 volunteers attended Advocacy TOT held by NDI, and it is anticipated that they will conduct at least 3 training workshops for Talas Oblast NGOs in July-August.

Table of Services

* Statistics for CSSCs of Nookat are incomplete since they just started to collect information in a proper way that is why this information for this quarter was omitted.

Service	BT	BS	JA	KB	KN	KR	KE	NR	NO	OS	TL
Number of visitors	172	580	206	65	120	322	398	518	N/A	166	303
Number of visits	265	650	320	289	511	733	515	521	N/A	213	945
Number of NGOs receiving services	66	417	97	60	102	213	55	345	N/A	144	45
Number of CBOs, initiative groups receiving services	14	9	8	55	8	44	5	20	N/A	13	22
Number of volunteers recruited for NGOs	8	0	4	0	50	36	8	0	N/A	0	28
Number of trainings	7	5	8	4	4	2	3	2	0	3	2
Number of consultations	190	332	83	217	300	491	112	166	N/A	91	95
Number of Computer/Internet/E-mail was used	60	255	440	121	19	2,439	75	287	N/A	55	48
Number of times copy machine was used	50	88	106	222	95	302	370	74	N/A	93	129
Number of copies	822	266	410 0	7,99 9	8,12 5	3,938	N/ A	6,60 8	N/A	3,06 8	1,164
Number of times Phone/Fax was used	23	162	310	34	69	114	107	124	N/A	17	98
Number of PCAs conducted	4	3	6	2	4	6	5	5	2	5	4
Number of CAPs developed	4	0	3	0	3	3	1	5	0	5	3

Bishkek Internet Center

During the quarter, the following have been recorded in the log file of CANGO.NET Web Site:

- 431,376 successful hits (English version – 259,758, Russian version – 171,618), of which US visitors did 26% of hits, international users did 47% of hits.
- 30,223 visits (English version – 15,618, Russian version – 14,605)
- 13,300 unique visitors (English version – 6,704, Russian version – 6,596)

The NGO Database (NGODB), NGO Homepages, NGO Electronic Library, NGO-related news articles, Links, Listserve and Bulletin Board are available on the Web Site. The Web Pages, hosted on the Web Site, were connected with the database records. The homepages of those NGOs, which were not responded to phone calls or cannot be found, were put inactive. Therefore, number of active homepages was decreased a bit: currently, 136 homepages in Russian and 67 in English have been hosted. This quarter, 2 NGO homepages for Kyrgyzstani NGOs in Russian were added. In addition, 6 NGO homepages were updated.

During the reporting period, 127 NGO representatives from 96 NGOs have visited the Internet Center 1605 times and used the following services: Email– 38%, Internet Searches– 37%, document processing– 25%. The Center registered 14 new visitors this quarter. 1,973 consultations on using Internet Center's facilities were delivered to NGOs. At the moment, there are 103 mailboxes being maintained for the Center's users, and 66 dial-up accounts, 10 new mailboxes for Center's visitors were created.

The Internet Center Assistant registered the following impact of the Center's services:

- The NGO "Mental Health" established fruitful partnership links with the international foundation "Genevan Initiative- Network of Reformers", which sponsored participation of the leader of Mental Health in workshop "Mental Health Reforms" held in Tbilisi, Georgia. Moreover, the foundation's representatives will visit the local partner in September 2001.

TAJIKISTAN

1. Dushanbe CSSC

Internal Capacity Building

- Preparation process to register the organization started: Mission was developed;
- By- law (charter) was developed and discussed with the competent NGOs, lawyers;
- Financial Sustainability workshop was attended;
- Draft action plans were discussed with consultants and recommendations- received;
- Negotiations were held with IOS (SSRP, UMCOR, OSCE) to deliver services on the fee basis, which is a part of the financial sustainability practices;
- Discussions with staff were initiated on the matter of their re- orientation (changes to the existing job descriptions and responsibilities)
- Staff workers were recommended to take part in the training workshops (Volunteer Management, Fundraising) and the Conference dedicated to the Volunteer Movement in Tajikistan.

Capacity Building for Service Delivery

- Participation of the staff at the training workshops is considered a strategy to improve service delivery and to build their capacity on the field.
- The organization is at the phase of Strategic Plan development, which is expected to identify types of services, area for each type of the services. The service delivery strategy will be finalized after registration of the organization (July).

Service Delivery

The main types of the services were:

- Requested training workshops;
- Regular trainings for the target and partner NGOs;
- Grant proposals process (review, consultations, amendments);
- Informational support;
- Equipment support (internet, e-mail, fax)

2. Other CSSCs

As for other CSSCs, they continued to render services to the local NGOs. In this quarter among other trainings the CSSCs started to conduct workshops on PCA, after their trainers attended a PCA TOT in Dushanbe.

After participation in the Financial Sustainability Workshops CSSC-Counterpart Branches have seriously taken localization into consideration and started to prepare documents for registration. Participation in the workshops and work on the Financial Sustainability Strategic Plan and Action plan helped them all the CSSCs to revise and correct their vision and plans on the future sustainability.

Table of Services:

Service	Dushanbe	Khojand	Khorog	Kurghon-Teppa	Kulob
Number of visitors	187	125	214	86	64
Number of visits	324	470	754	234	165
Number of NGOs receiving services	35	54	76	53	27
Number of CBOs, initiative groups receiving services	12	9	11	5	18
Number of volunteers recruited for NGOs	1	1	2	1	1
Number of trainings	15	9	8	10	9
Number of consultations	94	72	68	48	57
Number of Computer/Internet/E-mail was used	6	23	65	23	12
Number of times copy machine was used	32	64	88	45	6
Number of copies	739	640	870	960	76
Number of times Phone/Fax was used	23	34	67	78	17
Number of PCAs conducted	1	1	1	1	1
Number of CAPs developed	0	0	0	0	0

TURKMENISTAN

1. Ashgabat Resource Center

Activity Overview

- On the 1st of June the new Support Grant Program was announced with deadline of July 10. The Ashgabat Resource Center distributed information in hard and electronic version for NGOs and Donors in Turkmenistan. 300 copies were distributed through CSSCs in 4 oblasts. A format for registration of project proposals was developed in Excel and disbursed to CSSCs.
- During the reporting period there were 352 visits to the Resource Centre. 146 consultations were given to NGOs and Initiative Groups. Computer use has increased by 50% since this time last year. In addition, support services such as copier and printer use have increased.
- The Quarterly edition of the Newsletter “VESTI” was published highlighting 2001 as “World Volunteer Year”.
- A Russian language electronic presentation on Counterpart was developed by a RC volunteer
- There are several places in Ashgabat, where access to Internet is available for a fee. Free access is only available through the ACCELS Alumni Center and Counterpart. The ACCELS office has three computers connected to the Internet with 25 minutes of use per person per session. The slow speed of Turkmentelekom connections makes it difficult do serious searches anywhere in town except for Counterpart. The RC recruited a volunteer, Roman Chernyshov, to assist NGOs with internet searches. In exchange for his contribution of time he gets to use non-RC hours to design his Institute’s homepage as a final research project for his Diploma.
- This quarter, five students have been recruited by the RC Manager as volunteers

Internal Capacity Building

- The RC Manager participated in three trainings: Project Design, Public Education through the Media and Managing Volunteers as well as the regional workshop on Strategic Planning.
- The Ashgabat team participated in Part 3 of Financial Sustainability workshop Strategic Planning. A follow up meeting for Strategic Planning was held by Counterpart staff on May 28-29th. During the follow up meeting a final vision and structure of the future organisational network was drafted. The work was important for all staff because it provided models of various network structures and highlighted the necessity of planning beyond the LOP.

2. Dashoguz CSSC

Activity Overview

- 35 consultations were held with NGO representatives this quarter. Two NGOs: *Agrokhimik* and *Sarygamysh* were assisted in completion of financial reports to CIDA. The CSSC team identified two new initiative groups, *Chagalar Dessessi* and *Children’s Fund of Turkmenistan*. Both groups were advised on issues related to program development, strategic planning and legal status of NGOs. Subsequently, *Chagalar Dessessi* prepared the requisite registration documents which have been submitted to the Ministry of Justice. Other consultations were to a large extent related to current implementation of projects and project design.
- An NGO Discussion Club was held in April to announce Counterpart’s current Support Grant Program and deadlines.
- On May 5 a social partnership roundtable was held to encourage collaboration and coordination between Dashoguz velayet NGOs and foreign organizations working in the Dashoguz region. A follow-up meeting took place on May 19 targeting NGOs and foreign organizations working on medical issues and specifically building sanitation-hygiene awareness in the population.
- During this month NGO representatives have accessed the Internet 8 times. Information was distributed about the Canadian Fund, the American Embassy Democracy Commissions Grant Program, ISAR Discretionary Grants, UNFPA grants, and conferences and trainings within and outside of Turkmenistan.

- This quarter, Dashoguz CSSC staff continued a follow up on PCA activities conducted in February-March. The steps was as follows:
 - Meeting with local authorities to present the results of PCA with housing residents.
 - Follow up meetings in target communities to present the results of PCA research.
 - Continuation of CAP activity with community in Turgeneva 10. The follow up with this community has been slow because of government suspicion of community-organized activities related to improvements of road condition in one neighborhood. CSSC staff used a participatory approach to assist the committee in drafting a letter to the mayor's office. Within two weeks, they received a response that the mayor's office would finance 30% of road renovations if the community covered the remaining 70%.
- Three documents were developed to manage volunteers: 1) an application of irregular volunteers; 2) an application for organization's requesting volunteers and; 3) a list of volunteers which is the basis for an eventual volunteer database. Volunteers were included in training in Dashoguz and Ashgabad offices.
- There is active recruiting of volunteers taking place. Four volunteers continue work in the CSSC on a regular basis. In April-May volunteers spent 115-hours working with NGOs. The main activity done by volunteers this quarter were: Seeking information in Internet for NGOs; helping NGOs to compose e-mail letters; preparing documentation for NGOs; typing text into computers; and helping CSSC staff to organize the Social Partnership Round Table May 5th.
- On the 30th of May a commission visited the Dashoguz CSSC with the purpose of monitoring ISAR activities and to receive a common overview of Dashoguz NGO activities. The commission met with CSSC staff and was assisted by the office to arrange meetings with four other NGOs in the city.
- Three training activities took place attended by 49 NGO representatives

Internal Capacity Building

- CSSC assistant participated in "Strategic Planning" training on 19-20th of April.
- CSSC signed a one-year long-term agreement with Counterpart Turkmenistan.
- CSSCs staff participated at an April 30 meeting for CSSCs staff covering budgeting, office internal controls, and reporting issues.
- CSSC staff participated in the Strategic Planning and Financial Sustainability workshop from May 7-13 and the follow-up May 28-29 session.
- Dashoguz CSSC received ongoing consultations on new financial management procedures. The Center clarified the process of using savings from planned budget to project future expenditures strategically.
- The Center acquired an additional computer to respond to increased demand from NGOs and enrolled staff in computer classes. The Center developed a mechanism for paying contract trainers using Center grant funds. This helped to CSSC staff gain more control over the CSSC budget for this current year.
- CSSC Assistant conducted a follow-up NGO and Community training from March 9-10.

3. Lebap CSSC

Activity Overview

- This quarter, CSSC staff focused their energy on a pilot community outreach project called " Self Managed School Infrastructure" for local communities in Darganata etrap. PCA activities were organized through several meetings with school staff members, and representatives of the local communities in the vicinity of the 12 schools. The Staff of the CSSC conducted over 40 meetings with school communities with the assistance of Hub staff and consultants invited from Sarygamysh water user's association. As a result, priority needs in drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene were identified. 10 communities initially elected school committees. Nine of the ten school committees developed CAPs. Community Action Grant proposals have been drafted by the target schools and will be reviewed at an upcoming external grant committee to be hosted by the

Lebap regional hakimlik in July. If the pilot projects are successful, the local authorities have indicated that Counterpart will be authorized to officially open the CSSC to the public in August.

- Staff of Lebap CSSC visited NGOs *Nargiz* and *Amudarya* in Seidi and discussed with them a strategy to assist refugees living in *Taze yurt* settlement.
- Met with UNHCR representatives in the office of the Red Crescent to discuss ongoing programming targeting refugees
- Distributed training schedule and recruited 9 NGO members to attend capacity building training in Ashgabad

Internal Capacity Building

- CSSC gave their comments for Country Action Plan to Ashgabat office.
- Worked with Hub staff to develop a workplan and budget for the institutional grant period from April 2001 to March 2002.
- In April, staff participated in internal workshop on reporting and planning for next six months. The training involved how to use new formats, reporting, internal controls, budgeting, and time management.
- CSSC staff participated in Strategic Planning sessions in May and June.
- CSSC staff greatly increased skills in such areas as conducting communities meetings, community mobilization, report writing, and developing workplans.
- The Hub provided CSSC staff with documentation on policies and procedures and conducted revised orientation session.
- Lebap CSSC Assistant participated in "Emergency Preparedness" seminar in Bishkek with funding from NRC. This training was useful to develop a plan for future activities with refugees and to build skills to respond to emergency situations.
- Lebap CSSC Manager participated in a "Micro Business" seminar sponsored by NRC in Tashkent. Following the seminar, Mary CSSC staff adapted the module for use on refugee projects with the assistance of the Financial Manager who also attended the training.
- On May 10 Lebap CSSC staff participated in a working meeting organized by UNHCR for all participators of training on Micro Business and Emergency Preparedness. The goal was to set up an action plan on how to incorporate the new tools into daily work with refugees in the Lebap and Mary CSSCs.

4. Mary CSSC

Activity Overview

- Consulted with two MCH target NGOs and provided them with materials about the activities of Counterpart and other donor organizations and funds.
- Conducted presentation of Counterpart activities to staff of 10 schools in Garagum etrap where a pilot outreach project was initiated and the request of the local authorities.
- Presented Counterpart program to representatives of local hakimlik to build trust and gain support for opening of CSSC office
- Coordinated logistics to send 12 NGO representatives from Mary to Ashgabad for training
- Began "Self-Maintenance of School Infrastructure" community outreach project in Garagum etrap. This project covers 14 schools and 1 nursery school in Garagum etrap. Staff first acquainted local authorities with the project. Next they met with teachers and technical staff of the schools and parents. In these meetings they discussed possible directions of participatory activities. The staff visited 13 schools in Garagum etrap and the initial assessment revealed that the communities prioritized their needs for potable water and school renovation. Committees were elected in each school and the CAP process began. Unfortunately, the process was temporarily suspended until the Darganata project in Lebap is completed, as the human resources required to carryout the two intensive community projects were not within our current capacity.
- Assisted school committees to establish partnership relationships with Representatives of Educational the Education Department of Garagum etrap by involving them in school meetings and PCA activities.

- On May 30, Mary CSSC Assistant met with TACIS consultant Hedwig Seiwertsen who expressed interest in support to small enterprises and farmer associations in Mary. TACIS requested assistance to organize training on “Micro credit” in the coming months. CSSC staff gave examples of WUA project and other farmer association which have received assistance from Counterpart. TACIS agreed to include the NGOs in their upcoming training.

Internal Capacity Building

- Worked with Hub staff to develop a workplan and budget for the institutional grant period from April 2001 to March 2002.
- In April, staff participated in internal workshop on reporting and planning for next six months. The training involved how to use new formats, reporting, internal controls, budgeting, and time management.
- CSSC staff participated in Strategic Planning sessions in May and June.
- Mary CSSC strategized on how to organize a filing system on policies and procedures as well as other standard office documents.
- Mary CSSC Assistant participated in "Emergency Preparedness" seminar in Bishkek with funding from NRC. This training was useful to develop a plan for future activities with refugees and to build skills to respond to emergency situations.
- Mary CSSC Manager participated in a "Micro Business" seminar sponsored by NRC in Tashkent. Following the seminar, Mary CSSC staff adapted the module for use on refugee projects with the assistance of the Financial Manager who also attended the training.
- On May 10, 2001 Mary CSSC staff participated in a working meeting organized by UNHCR for all participants of training on " Micro Business" “ Emergency Preparedness” . The goal was to set up an action plan on how to incorporate the new tools into daily work with refugees in the Lebap and Mary CSSCs.

Table of Services

*Note: Lebap and Mary CSSCs not yet operational as offices to receive visitors, therefore the statistics for those two Centers are incomplete.

Service	Ashgabad CSSC	Dashoguz CSSC	Lebap CSSC	Mary CSSC
Number of visitors	181	76	89	60
Number of visits	352	239	103	23
Number of NGOs receiving services	128	15	2	0
Number of CBOs, initiative groups receiving services	15	4	10	13
Number of volunteers recruited for NGOs	0	8	2	1
Number of trainings	16	5	0	0
Number of consultations	146	119	50	36
Number of Computer/Internet/E-mail was used	85	32	115	0
Number of times copy machine was used	127	86	30	0
Number of copies	1407	1125	537	0
Number of times Phone/Fax was used	16	47	60	0
Number of PCAs conducted	0	0	12	13
Number of CAPs developed	0	0	10	0

UZBEKISTAN

1. Bukhara (*Partner*)

- A meeting with members of *Business Women Association* of Bukhara oblast was conducted to discuss the needs of the BWA branches, in particular the 9 branches opened in the Bukhara Oblast. The Winrock seminar on Legal Training of Women was conducted, but it was requested that Counterpart provide further training for the staff of the branches.
- On April 3-6, the staff of Association of Advocates of Bukhara oblast was trained to use e-mail. Handouts were distributed among participants.
- A questionnaire was developed to assess NGO service needs.
- The billboard of advertisements and proposals was made to provide NGO's with information on various programs, including the bulletin *Initiative*.
- On May 1 CSSC Coordinator discussed work issues with volunteers of Crisis Center *Oidin* who are the students of Bukhara University and the Technological Institute.
- Also on May 1 the CSSC Coordinator met with the leader of the *Association of Librarians*. The CSSC trained Association members in using e-mail. Questions on training Association members from rayon branches have also been discussed. Taking into consideration the fact that libraries have rooms, furniture, there is an opportunity to work with the rural population on developing initiative groups and NGO on the base of library.
- On May 4 the CSSC conducted a needs assessment and developed the action plan together with members of German Cultural Center. Then German Center staff made the statistical analysis, conducted additional meetings and initiated steps according to the Action Plan.
- On May 5 the Center met with pupils of schools Nos. 2, 8, 21 together with the staff of Youth Department. During the problem identification meeting, it was revealed that contact and communication were key problems. The group identified the following steps to resolve the problems: 1) conduct a meeting with teachers 2) organize the Debate Club and 3) organize a Communications Club.
- On May 5 presentations on MIP and Community Outreach Programs were made in Bukhara, Navoyi, Samarkand. Informative prospects on MIP Program, project presentation material, the informative bulletin "Initiative" were distributed among participants. In Bukhara the leader of the Parents Club *Orzu* told participants about her working experience. In Samarkand the leader of Samarkand Center *Ayel* spoke about problems the organization was facing during project implementation in a mahalla. The presentation of projects evoked the discussion among participants of the seminar. Many people thought that it was necessary to train NGOs how to mobilize the population.
- On May 11 the CSSC conducted an in-depth OD assessment of the Association of Pediatricians together with the Bobur Turdiev from the Hub Center. This work revealed the new opportunities for developing organization.
- On May 30-31 The Center conducted an in-depth OD assessment Center *Umid* (Samarkand) together with the OD program coordinator Akmal Roustamov. While visiting Samarkand NGOs, they discussed issues related to Counterpart programs. During meetings, they identified problems connected with implementing programs. That trip helped identify the gaps in the CSSC's work and the information collected will be used in future program implementation.
- On June 7 in the meeting with NGOs of the Navoyi Oblast the questions on NGO activity improvement were discussed. Counterpart's training program, especially Methodology of PCAP, was of a great interest to the NGOs.
- Also on June 7 the Center met with representatives of justice authorities. NGO's of the Navoyi region joined the network *Hamkor*.
- June 12-14 the Center conducted a seminar on social partnership in Karshi. During the seminar NGO representatives received 6 consultations on Counterpart programs, project design, and community mobilization.

2. Kokand (*Branch*)

- Bahodir Umarmkhanov, the Manager of Kokand CSSC participated in the workshop on Emergency situations held by UNHCR in Bishkek from April 2-7.
- In April the data on Kokand CSSC volunteers was gathered.
- In April the CSSC library was replenished with new books on various subjects. The total number of books received is more than 20.
- Data about the 7 contract trainers working in Fergana Valley through the Center was gathered.
- In May a merit/bonus system was developed to encourage CSSC volunteers: to participate in Counterpart workshops; to involve Peace Corps volunteers to deliver various courses and events in English; and to hold a contest among volunteers under the title "Hey, volunteers!"
- Contract trainer Dilzoda Akhmedova participated in the seminar on Small Business conducted by UNHCR in Tashkent from May 9-19.
- Contract trainer Bahodir Fozilkhujaev participated in a TOT on Developing Business Plan organized by PRAGMA in Tashkent from May 15-18.
- On May 29 Bahodir Umarmkhanov participated in the roundtable discussion at *Ishonch* of Fergana. NGO's from Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. The goal of the roundtable was to foster interactive relations of women's NGO's all over Central Asia. The CSSC Manager from Jalalabad, Kyrgyzstan also participated in this roundtable.
- On May 31 the CSSC Manager participated in the monthly meeting of the International Organization network members working in Fergana Valley. The following organizations participated in the meeting: Abt. Zdravplus, Save the Children, CAFE, Peace Corps, CC, Medicine sans frontiers. Participants exchanged information on programs and joint events.
- Database of NGOs in the Fergana Valley was updated monthly.
- On June 8 a presentation of the MIP/CO was made at the Center. 20 people from NGOs, government, mahallas and media attended the presentation.
- On June 29 contract trainer Marat Rakhimov voluntarily conducted the roundtable and developed CAP for the makhalla center *Kamolon* in Kokand.

3. Namangan (*Partner*)

- After the partner assessment of local NGOs in Namangan, Counterpart selected the NGO *Namangan Association of Librarians*. The *Association* has a project "Center for Legal Information" supported by OSI/Soros. They have enough space for the CSSC activity and equipment given by OSI/Soros grant that can be used by Counterpart as well. The agreement with the *Namangan Association of Librarians* was signed on July 2. Two people were hired for the positions of Namangan CSSC Coordinators.

4. Nukus (*Branch*)

- The adjusted training module "NGO and Community" was translated from Russian into Karakalpak and 10 books were purchased for the library.
- In preparation of registration, the Charter of the CSSC was developed and is currently being translated into Karakalpak.
- For strategic planning purposes, a SWOT analysis was conducted, a fundraising model developed, and an analysis was made of the environment, the expertise of project ideas, and the expertise of fundraising ideas.
- The volunteer Lisa Nurmanova has worked in our office since June 18. She will continue working until September, when she returns to teaching. Currently she functions as a secretary.
- On June 29 there was a meeting of the NGO Club. 56 people participated in the meeting which was supported by ISAR. The purpose was to find out whether to reinstate NGO Club activity. Preliminary review of 39 questionnaires indicates the Club is valued and necessary.

5. Samarkand (*Branch*)

- The Samarkand CSSC was established as a Branch of Counterpart and UNHCR. In May two people were hired: Azam Babahodjaev (used to work as a Deputy Director in the International Management Training Center) and Tanzillya Salimdjanova (used to work as volunteer within the NGO Umid and IMTC).
- The Support Center has begun its work with giving consultations to NGO, conducting research among NGOs and starting creation of their own NGO database.
- From June 25-30 staff members participated in PCA training and are able to give consultations in conducting PCAs and developing CAPs.

6. Tashkent (*Partner*)

- The structure of the CSSC was reviewed and responsibilities distributed among the CSSC staff.
- Grant committee members were interviewed and approved by Counterpart. Goals and objectives of the CSSC and grant committee were presented. The first grant committee meeting was held on June 1, at which it reviewed three grant applications.
- On June 14 the Tashkent CSSC with NGO Partner *Tashkent Public Education Center* conducted a presentation to local NGOs, international donor organizations, and media. Local media covered the presentation, with reporting on the Center's activities in a News Program on UzTV and in the newspaper. At the presentation guests were given press-releases and booklets about Counterpart, Tashkent CSSC and TPEC.
- Director of TPEC, within the framework of partnership relations, met with local authorities and discussed possible ways to collaborate. In particular, CSSC received data from district mahallas.
- CSSC organized the meeting of local NGO's with the representative of the Canadian Foundation under the Canadian Embassy in Kazakhstan. After the meeting information materials about the Canadian Foundation were distributed to all interested NGOs. Representatives of 47 organizations participated in the meeting.
- The Tashkent CSSC gathered data on more than 50 NGOs and 67 international donor organizations.

7. Urgench (*Partner*)

- There was a presentation/opening ceremony of Urgench CSSC within NGO Partner *Al Khorezmy-Vambery* on May 4 2001. Local NGOs, mahalla committee members and authorities were invited to the opening ceremony. Counterpart staff, led by Country Director, presented Phase III goals and objectives to the guests. Masharip Bekchanov, Deputy Khokim, officially opened the CSSC.
- In April 2001 the Manager of the new CSSC in Urgench, Bakhodir Khasanov, participated in the Regional Training on PRA in Osh.
- Hub Center staff conducted in-depth OD assessments in the Center, resulting in the development of an Action Plan for Capacity Building. The main directions were: to build capacity in the area of providing services and to build the material base. The office was equipped with office equipment, furniture, and stationery. Two Coordinators were hired and job descriptions defined.
- During the visit of Mr. Edward Leclair from 1 to 15 June, the meeting with Khokim of Khiva and Khiva district was organized. Ed Leclair and Bahodir Khasanov, Khokim M. Matyakub Madaminov and Masharip Bekchanov participated in this meeting, which reinforced collaboration. The Khokimiyat assisted the CSSC in organizational issues and advertises CSSC programs.

Table of Services

Service	Bukhara	Kokand	Naman-gan	Nukus	Samar-kand	Tashkent-Partner	Urgench	Hub Center*
Number of visitors	225	189	1	141	29	61	34	327
Number of visits	286	461	1	596	44	79	60	983
Number of NGOs receiving services	61	131	-	86	17	55	57	211
Number of CBOs, initiative groups receiving services	40	11	-	34	6	3	9	-
Number of volunteers recruited for NGOs	-	10	-	2	-	-	5	-
Number of trainings	13	9	-	7	-	-	2	11
Number of consultations	98	67	1	85	29	18	33	86
Number of Computer/Internet/E-mail was used	144	248	-	192	-	3	24	762
Number of times copy machine was used	128	243	-	250	-	4	4	169
Number of copies	1485	2363	-	2732	-	1417	745	1265
Number of times Phone/Fax was used	111	167	-	168	-	16	24	114
Number of PCAs conducted	6	4	-	7	-	5	4	-
Number of CAPs developed	5	1	-	8	-	1	4	-

* Because of the transitional period services were provided in the Hub-office as well as in the recently-established Tashkent CSSC.

E. Focus NGOs (Target NGOs)

KAZAKHSTAN

1. National Diabetic Association

Activity Overview

- In April they took part in Public Hearings on health issues in the Republic of Kazakhstan.
- They took part in the international exhibitions “Life Without Diabetes” in Moscow and “KIHE-2001”.
- In May they took part in the international scientific conference “Strategy of Health Care Development in Kazakhstan in XXI Century”, organized by the Health Care Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Health Care Department of Almaty and Medical Association *Salayattyotan*.
- In May they took part in the two-day conference on “Actual Questions of Diabetes”, conducted by the Danish Company Novo Nordisk for Health Care specialists of the Republic of Kazakhstan.
- In June they took part in work of the Russian Endocrinology Congress in St. Petersburg.
- Suggestions to Instruction about Government Medicine Drugs Purchase were developed and given to the Health Care Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan.
- They took part in work of Republic Scientific-Practice Conference “Women of Kazakhstan: 10 years in Condition of State Independency, Overview of XXI Century”, organized by the National Committee on Family and Women’s Rights by President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Internal Capacity Building

- The 5th Anniversary booklet devoted to DARK was released.
- They took part in a seminar on “Preparing a Business Plan” organized by UNICEF.
- In June DARK, with specialists of the Public Health Care Agency, organized a press conference where the topic was “Diabetic Association of the Republic of Kazakhstan Against Earning Money on Kazakhstani People’s Health, Children’s and Adult’s Life”.
- Consultations with Public Diabetic Organizations, which are members of DARK were conducted.
- Project of Partnership Agreement between DARK and members of Regional Diabetic Community Association was developed.
- The members of DARK helped to the Regional Diabetic NGO.

2. National Consumer’s League of Kazakhstan

Activity overview

- 29 new consumer’s rights NGOs were established in Kazakhstan and Central Asia with assistance of the *League*.
- With the Students’ Association they developed a service delivery agreement between students and institutes of higher education.
- The *League* signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with 10 NGOs, which will provide public control of programs’ effectiveness that, the Government implements using foreign donor funding.
- A Corporate Management Code for NGOs in Kazakhstan was developed.
- A project for establishing of Interdepartmental Counsel of Consumers’ Rights was developed.
- In May the *League* prepared and sent to the Supreme Court analysis of 25 complaints from lower courts of Almaty.

Internal Capacity Building

- The organizational structure and job descriptions were developed and documented.
- The Board of Directors is now operative and consists of 14 people, including officials and international organization representatives.
- Three employees took part in Counterpart workshops on Financial Sustainability and Fundraising.
- In June the *League* received a grant to establish a study center for teachers from the Eurasia Foundation.
- A new department of consumers' education was opened with three staff.
- In June the *League* signed an agreement for cooperation with 42 NGOs.
- The *League* provided its partners with literature on consumers' rights and published and sent out its newsletter "News for Consumers".
- During this period 138 persons were consulted, representing 69 societies of consumers' rights.

3. Confederation of Non-governmental Organizations of Kazakhstan

Activity overview

- The *Confederation* conducted the conference "Public Sector Development in Kazakhstan: Mechanisms of Power and NGO Cooperation".
- CNOK developed two concepts: Public Sector Development and Government Social Order, which were discussed at national roundtable March 28-29. On April 14 the Prime Minister signed an order creating a working group to develop the NGO's Concepts. A follow up conference on the concepts was held May 24-25 in Astana.
- The *Confederation* participated in the international conference on "Control Mechanisms of Human Rights Protection in Kazakhstan" on June 7-8, which was organized by the State Commission of Human Rights.
- CNOK took an active part in preparing and carrying out public hearings on youth policy in Kazakhstan.

Internal Capacity Building

- The staff duties were developed and documented.
- In June CNOK representatives attended at a seminar on volunteers' issues, organized by *Volunteers' House* in Almaty.
- CNOK received a grant from the World Bank for the poverty project "Success It's me!"
- The partnership project between CNOK and *United Way Arizona* with assistance from the USAID funded *Partnership Arizona - Kazakhstan* continues to be successfully implemented.

KYRGYZSTAN

The initial OD assessments were completed for four focus NGOs (Bayastan, Chintomani, Talas Farmer's Union, and Bishkek Cnter for Social Initiatives). The Action Plans for Capacity Building and Service Delivery (CBP) were developed and finalized.

1. Bishkek Center For Social Initiatives, Bishkek

The NGO proactively collaborates with local governments to conduct meetings, roundtables, and deliver legal consultations to groups of internal migrants residing in suburbs of Bishkek. The NGO members delivered legal consultations to 182 people of new residential districts of Lenin and Pervomaysky Rayons. The population of the new residential districts is not well aware of their rights; they do not pay attention to residential registration, which causes a lot of problems in having access to public services being provided by governments. One of the issues of high priority for the people is a lack of stable income sources, and they are interested in developing revenue-generating activities. Another crucial issue is the lack of juridical and social information. The NGO members develop reference books on legal issues and small business basics for internal migrants, which will

be published by the end of 2001. This quarter the NGO got Internet access and developed a web page that is hosted on CANGONet. Due to improved communications, the NGO has intensified its relations within the NGO Working Group on Conflict Prevention under the CIS Conference on Migration Issues. During the quarter, the NGO successfully passed a financial audit by the Tax Inspector.

2. Talas Oblast Farmers Union, Talas

During the reporting period more than 200 farmers visited the office and received assistance in filling papers to apply for credits, developing business plans and consultation in agricultural matters. On April 4, the General Assembly of the Farmers' Union was held in Talas, attended by 26 delegates throughout the Oblast. Participants reviewed performance of the executive staff, and re-elected the five Standing Committees. The NGO completed installation of information stands for farmers in each village governments of Talas Rayon. On April 24-25, Chemonics held a two-day seminar on land law for the NGO members and provided 20 copies of manual on land law and water rights. On May 28, the NGO held a presentation of the newly opened information-consultative center in Chon-Alysh village government.

3. Bayastan, Naryn

The Support Center for children with disabilities has been providing services to promote children's rights, including issuing newsletter, publishing booklets, conducting special classes on children's rights for school teachers and senior grade pupils, and delivering consultations to children. Currently, the NGO members are conducting survey among homeless children to attract the public attention to dangerous and inhumane conditions and treatment faced by homeless children.

4. Chintamani, Tash-Komur Town, Jalalabad Oblast

In April, the NGO examined the town landfills to check whether they are being maintained in line with the generally accepted sanitary regulations. The report on shortcomings encountered was sent to the town administration and published in the newsletter "Voice of the nature". In May, the NGO members together with head of the sanitary service examined buffer area of the Naryn River. A lot of infringements of the sanitary rules were encountered, including placement of fuel stations and small cafes in the buffer areas. The report on the examination was also published in the issue #4 of the newsletter. The NGO has started collecting books on ecology for the office library, and by the end of June 62 books were collected. Accomplishments of the NGO Chintamani were discussed at the case management meeting held on June 1, 2001. The OD PC V. Akhmetov made initial OD assessment at the end of May, and main gaps encountered include: 1) the leader of NGO seems autocratic and all strategic decisions are being made by him personally, 2) the NGO has strained relations with local authorities due to it strongly criticizes the local governments, 3) lack of clients. The NGO was given extensive consultations in addressing weak points of their activities. The case management meeting decided to analyze the project implementation with special emphasis on increasing internal transparency and ability to establish links with clients and main stakeholders.

TAJIKISTAN

Counterpart has developed an initial list of target NGOs under the Phase III program. To get solid and complete information on the work of every Target NGO, an expert from Shelter Now International, Khusrav Tajiddinov, was invited for consultancy. He investigated Counterpart Target NGOs' Community Development projects by visiting all NGOs and surveying communities. With all data and facts collected, Mr. Tajiddinov wrote a report with detailed analyses of each target NGO's activities and their targeted communities and practical recommendations to Counterpart. These recommendations will be taken into consideration when the final list of Target NGOs is presented.

TURKMENISTAN

- **Union of Pensioners Arma, Ashgabat:** *Arma* is carrying out a new project totaling \$3,800 supported by the Democracy Commission of the US Embassy. Counterpart staff provided consultations to the NGO to develop this project focused on activities to inform pensioners of their rights.
- **Family Mercy and Health under the Women Union, Bezmein City, Ahal:** The NGO identified local resources to organize a summer camp for children from vulnerable families. Following Fundraising training, the NGO successfully raised funds to send 50 students to the camp each month.
- **Ecosodrugestvo Commonwealth of Eco NGOs, Ashgabat:** This group continues to provide information and technical assistance to ecology NGOs. Eight of these ecoNGOs received grants from different sources including ISAR and CIDA as the result of this NGO's dissemination of information.
- **My Rights, Ashgabat:** This organization provided over 30 consultations on consumer's rights, in cooperation with GORONO (Department of Education), and carried out 5 lectures for school children and students. Through Global Support, they participated in Conference on Consumer's Rights in Kiev.
- **Junior Achievement Economic Education and Young Entrepreneurs Center, Ashgabat:** This quarter, Junior Achievement continued to work with students and members of their NGO. They carry out young entrepreneur games and help students to organize private firms and develop business plans. This organization became a member of a new project in development of economic and business education supervised by ACCELS and CARANA. Two members are going to participate in a TOT in Almaty to be prepared to carry out that project. In addition, two members are also trainers from PRAGMA.
- **Turkmen Association Journalists Social Partnership Shamshyrak, Ashgabat:** The NGO published one newsletter on Social Partnership activities of NGOs this quarter. Four representatives participated in a seminar on the "Basics of Journalistic Art" organized by USIS.
- **Center for Patient's Rights Keik Okara, Ashgabat:** This organization has been busy implementing a project supported by Counterpart under the MCH sub-project. They created the module on Water and Sanitation and produced informational materials into Turkmen.
- **Ecological school of Farmers, Ashgabat:** The NGO developed two booklets on a new agro-technology and biologically safe methods of combating agricultural pests. They distributed the materials among farmers in Magtumguly village of Ahal velayat.
- **Uchgun, Turkmenbashi Etrap, Dashoguz:** The CBO carried out a project focusing on safe water use under the MCH project. They carried out eight training sessions with woman's focus groups located in a rural village of Turkmebashi etrap.
- **Sarygamysh, Turkmenbashi Etrap, Dashoguz:** The CBO worked closely with Dostluk village to identify needs among the population and to introduce them to the concept of water committees. As a result, 1,500 people became members of two water committees, which were established in Dostluk village. They jointly built 15 cisterns.
- **Arzuv, Seidi City, Lebap:** The NGO attracted three volunteers from Peace Corps to conduct seminars for school children and parents on rational nutrition. They also published three booklets and 1 informational bulletin for their focus group – children, parents and teachers.
- **DostlukTurkmenabat City, Lebap:** The members of the NGO continue to carry out English, Turkmen, French languages and computer courses for children, students, and adults.
- **Amul, Turkmenabat City, Lebap:** This quarter, Amul has worked on editing a film on women's issues and booklet about NGO's activities.
- **Umyt Social Adaptation Center from Turkmenbashi City, Balkan:** This NGO is in a period of intensive internal restructuring. They have, despite the challenges, been the consignee of a \$350,000 shipment of humanitarian goods from CHAP which they began distributing in June.
- **Triera, Dashoguz City, Dashoguz:** This organization has begun to implement a project supported by the MCH project. They developed training materials and their own training module focusing on anemia. In addition, they received funding from the New Zealand Embassy and

Know How Fund to develop and carry-out exercise classes especially designed for people suffering from blood clotting disorders.

Internal Capacity Building

- 3 of the primary target NGOs: **Junior Achievement**, “**Commonwealth of Eco NGOs and My Rights**” took part in full OD Assessments, resulting in 6-months OD Action Plans for each NGO. Those Action Plans aimed at increasing internal capacity in strategic planning, governance, financial sustainability, human resources and external relations.
- OD Specialist conducted a strategic planning session attended by 13 of the Target NGOs in June to identify their common priority needs and concerns. Skill-building needs were identified in the following areas: strategic planning, financial sustainability, human resource management, and relations with local environment. This meeting was a first step to identify target NGOs needs concerns in order to best respond within the constraints of Counterpart’s budget and human resource potential.
- 13 representatives of 6 target NGOs participated in advanced training in “Volunteer Management” in June where they developed concrete plans of activities to build the volunteer base of their NGOs. Those plans were improved with consultations from the OD specialist and experienced trainers. Participants will meet again next quarter to present their achievements in building their volunteer base and discuss obstacles they encountered and how they removed them.
- On June 28th, the OD Specialist in collaboration with two NGOs: **Bosphor and Arma** facilitated a discussion on general legal principles of NGO regulation and questions related to registration issue. A questionnaire was also developed and circulated to determine what NGOs perceive to be appropriate interventions and resources that will improve the legal enabling environment for NGOs.
- Counterpart organized a meeting between target NGOs and the Eurasia Foundation in order to encourage that fund to provide financial support to Turkmen NGOs. They were informed that the major reason why most NGO’s could not apply to Eurasia is that registration is a pre-requisite for funding. As a result, the group of NGOs wrote a letter to the President of Eurasia explaining the difficulties with NGO registration and requesting that Eurasia waive the registration requirement in Turkmenistan.
- 107 representatives from 14 target NGOs attended training this quarter, improving their skills in financial management, governance, project design, association development, and human resource management.
- During this reporting period 12 target NGOs received lengthy consultations on proposal writing, how to improve collaboration and partnership with governmental organizations, how to develop and prioritize program goals, and how to resolve conflicts within their organizations.

UZBEKISTAN

1. Center *Umidvorlik*

Under the support of Counterpart in the framework of the project “Creation of the Informational and Consultative Center” the following events occurred:

- Three two-day trainings for Mahalla inhabitants and representatives of the related NGOs of Tashkent-city, Tashkent Oblast and other cities of Uzbekistan on “Raising of Civil consciousness of mahalla inhabitants” (60 people). Individual consultations of a jurist, psychologist, and sociologist are conducted (5 hours a week).
- Under the support of Open Society Institute Soros Foundation the project for the women suffered from every day violence.
- Under the support of German Embassy sewing workshop-class for rehabilitation of disabled people and giving opportunity of getting earnings for their families is working. Agreement on realization of the order on (sewing of the working gauntlets) with enterprise “Mekhrli Savdo” was made in May.

- By staff of Counterpart OD was conducted on May 29.
- More comprehensive Council of the Center was conducted on June 8. The purpose of the Council was to develop a strategic plan of the Center for June-December 2001
- The activity of the Center is carried out according to the plan.
- Music Salon was established for children with abnormal speech; 15 disabled children visit it regularly twice a week.
- The excursion for disabled children to Mustakillik Square in honor of Victory Day was organized on May 6.
- Participation in the seminar of TACIS, Association of paralytics of France “Parent-specialist-child-partnership” in April 2001
- Participation in the seminar of Counterpart “PCA and Project development” in Osh-city in April.
- Participation of eight staff members of the Center in a mini-seminar of Informational and Resource Center of USA Embassy on June 28.
- Precautions of heating system in the office of the Center under the support of *Teplokommunenergo* took place.
- Payment of municipal services (Electroenergy, user’s payment).

2. Association of Pediatricians of the Bukhara region

- According to the plan for the second quarter, 2 three-day seminars on “How to write a project”, “Women and conflict solution” were conducted. On each of the seminars 20 listeners from three cities (Bukhara, Navoyi, Kagan) and 11 rayons of two Oblasts participated. Participants were particularly leading pediatricians of those oblasts.
- The last day of the seminar “How to write a project” on May 24 took place in the office of the Branch in Jondorskiy rayon. In this day a presentation of this office was conducted on which the heads of Health authorities of the rayon and Khokimiyat participated.
- One day of the seminar “Women and conflict solution” on 14th of June 2001 took place in the office of Bukhara Branch, where the presentation of the office was also conducted and professional holiday Medical Worker Day was celebrated. On this event the heads of Health authorities, Professors of the Tashkent Institute of Improvement of Doctors, representatives of the Crisis Center “Oydin nuri”, Oblast Center of Information and Culture, Coordinator of Bukhara Support Center, teachers of Bukhara State Medical Institute and listeners of the seminar participated.
- From June 23 to July 2 in the Pediatrician Association doctor Marianne C.Dersjant-Roorda, Coordinator of Women’s Projects in NMSP (Netherlands Management Cooperation Program) worked. She learned of the activity of the Association and its local Branches, talked to doctors and students of neonatology and obstetrician-gynecology. As a result a project on “Informational and Diagnostic Centers for Pediatricians” has been designed.
- Constituent Conferences on 10th and 13th of June on creation of Association of eastern doctors and young doctors were conducted. Association of Children Doctors was a constitutor. The heads are to be Inom Karamatov and Azizbek Boltayev.

3. International Rehabilitation Center *Umid* (IRC)

- During the quarter 216 patients applied for consultation to the Center. There are 12 beds for women and children in crisis. The Center can also serve up to 21 patients round-the-clock with psychological, medical and social legal assistance.
- Course of resolving treatment conducted for 19 patients. Juridical assistance (juridical consultation, assistance in the court) was given to two patients.
- Three teenagers live in the Center *Umid*. In April an agreement was signed with secondary school No.34 to allow these children to study at the school. One child, with severe scarring on her face and neck, studies at the Center.

- Ambassador of the USA John Edward Herbst visited the Center. The keys from automobile were solemnly presented to the Center. In this event workers of the Embassy, representatives of different International foundations, NGOs, representatives of women councils and Khokimiyats, volunteers and patients of the Center, mass media representatives participated.
- In the month of April in Kashkadarya Oblast in kishlak “Kungir Tog” in Mahalla “Nekuz” Women’s social cabinet have been opened, under the support of the Center.
- In the month of June in Samarkandskiy rayon social-legal cabinet “Suyanch” have been opened. It is also works under the governance of the Center. Necessarily “Suyanch” directs applied for the assistance people to the Center.
- During the quarter the next periodical number of the newspaper “UMID” was issued, in which information on opening and activities of the social-legal cabinets, on the activity of the Center itself, on patients, on different NGOs, foundations.
- In the month of May, the M.Alikulova, former patient of the Center “Umid” became a trainer of the Winrock International.
- US Journalists, the member of the US Congress (Phil English), the representative of the Embassy of the USA of Culture and Education (Mark Askuino) visited the Center. They all were very interested with the needlework of the patients (carpet weaving).
- *Umid*, in cooperation with the Global Project, conducted a three-day seminar in Kashkadarya Oblast on Family Violation and the Legal Competence of the Women’s Coalition Questions. The representatives of six Oblasts of Uzbekistan participated in this seminar.
- IRC *Umid* closely collaborates with other NGOs. Materials and articles about the activity of *Umid* were published in Republic and Oblate newspapers. Staff members and volunteers work constantly on improvement of their qualification, participate in seminars, conferences, organized by different international foundations and NGOs.
- During the reporting period, the Center conducted 1 Conference, 1 Round Table, 1 presentation, 4 two-day seminars, 1 three-day seminar, one-day seminar-meeting with poor single women. The seminars were on Community needs assessment, Women’s rights, Human rights, Social Partnership, Coalition Development and so on.
- Consultative skilled assistance was provided to women and children through Social and legal Cabinet *Nekuz* by the specialists of the Center. 55 women, 42 children and 23 men received assistance.

4. Fergana Regional Center for Social and Legal Support of Women and Teenagers “Ishonch”

- Under the Counterpart-funded project, the organization hosted 20 seminars on “Woman – increase of her self-appraisal” for 500 active women from 7 rayons. The most active 123 were identified and selected for the next round of trainings.
- Under an Abt project the organization coordinated 27 seminars on “Reproductive health, reproductive law, prevention of anemia, precautions from STDs” with participation from 675 women and girls from rural areas.
- The head of the Center Akhunova Zulfiya participated in the following events: 10-14 April – Training travel on precautions of AIDS to Osh-city organized by USAID and Global; 26-27 April – Conference on the Role of NGO in solving problems of family violation organized by The Center of Trust “Sabr” in Samarkand; 27 April – presentation of the project “You are not an orphan” on the Conference conducted by Counterpart, in Tashkent; April 27-May 22 – travel to the USA due to the invitation of the US State Department for the experience exchange among NGOs under the Program International Visitor Program; 30 May-2 June – International Forum on “Woman and International consent” in Osh-city organized by Soros Foundation-Kyrgyzstan, with the purpose of development of partner projects among NGOs of Central Asia; June 8-9 – International Conference in Khojand-city on Social and Legal Aspects of women organized by Soros Foundation – Tajikistan; and June 28 in the office of the Center “Ishonch” the seminar on Legal Regulation of Non-governmental, non-commercial organizations was conducted with the participation of Oliy Majlis deputy A.Kh.Saidov was conducted.

- Staff of the Center *Ishonch* – U.Mukhitdinov, G.Sobirova, N.Khodjimatov, M.Abdurakhmanova participated in different seminars. U. Mukhitdinov participated in the following seminars: “Monitoring and Project writing on Human rights violation”, “Advocacy” – OSCE, TOT on Human rights organized by the Center on Human rights and Humanitarian Law Training, International seminar on “Student Juridical Clinics of Fergana Valley development” – Eurasia Foundation in Osh-city. He also participated in three Counterpart seminars.

5. Kokand Department of Businesswomen Association (BWA)

- On April 3 BWA conducted the seminar “On the way to non-violation” for 20 participants. At the seminar ways of prevention of violations in the family were suggested.
- On April 4-5 BWA conducted a seminar for the heads of 20 Mahalla Committees on “From strong State towards strong Civil Society”.
- On April 12-13 the BWA hosted a seminar for the heads of 20 Mahalla Committees on “Financial Sustainability of NGOs”.
- On April 16-17 BWA conducted a seminar for the heads of Women Councils of Mahalla Committees of 6 rayons and Kokand-city on “On the way to the non-violation”.
- April 23-24 the training on strategy development for 2001-2002 was conducted, members of BWA and the heads of NGOs (40 people) participated.
- On May 18-21 60 participants, including the heads of Women Councils of Mahalla of Kokand-city and two rayons participated in a BWA seminar on “Outlook of the development of the State Policy of Uzbekistan”.
- May 10-14 20 heads of NGOs participated in the BWA seminar “The way to Success”.
- On May 25 the BWA went through the OD assessment process with Counterpart’s OD Coordinator and the Kokand CSSC Manager.
- In cooperation with the local station *Mulokot* four BWA television ads were prepared.
- 6 people were trained by Counterpart to be BWA trainers.
- Business Plan for BWA for the period 2001-2002 has been prepared and submitted for consideration to the PRAGMA Corporation.
- The Information on BWA activity and a package of services were prepared
- On June 4-5 for 20 heads and activists of the meeting of rural inhabitants of one Mahalla the seminar on “Mahalla – organ of self-government” was conducted. 20 people participated.
- On June 19 in museum of local lore of Kokand-city women forum on “The Role of women NGOs in the solution of social and economic problems” was conducted. 40 people participated.
- On June 20-26 BWA conducted the seminar on “Basis of Entrepreneurship” for. 20 participants.
- On June 29 the BWA hosted a roundtable on “ The Role of women NGOs in the solution of social and economic problems ”.
- Repairs on the BWA office are being completed.

F. COORDINATION AND COOPERATION

KAZAKHSTAN

- **Volunteers Service Overseas (VSO):** The partnership agreement between CC and VSO is signed. Two volunteers – Claire and Tim Healings – work for our Support Center in Astana. This agreement will be up the end of this year. According to our collaboration these consultants should achieve a whole range of indicators focused on organizational capacity improvement and community outreach issues.
- **HIVOS/IDC:** Association of Young Leaders and Diabetes Association of the Republic of Kazakhstan are target NGOs for Counterpart and HIVOS Foundation. An agreement between Counterpart and IDC is signed under which organizational capacity interventions will be implemented in concordance with mutual agreements and benefits for both target/focus organizations.
- **Volunteers House:** Volunteers Development Program in Kazakhstan will be implemented in close cooperation with Volunteers House.

KYRGYZSTAN

- Country Director (CD) Erkin Kasybekov continues to take part at regular ODT meetings, where all USAID contractors and partners share information about their current activities.
- CD had a meeting with Medet Tulegenov, an executive director of Soros Foundation, Kyrgyzstan and reached an agreement that the Foundation will implement its NGO related programs through Counterpart network of CSSCs.
- On April 9, CD took part in a meeting organized by UNHCR, where it called all UNHCR program implementers. Some strategic issues were addressed.
- On April 13, CD had a meeting with executive director of ACT in Central Asia Emil Sultanbayev, where both sides agreed to coordinate their activities in cases joint funding of some NGOs in order to avoid duplications and double dipping.
- On April 25 CD observed a training run by Pragma and facilitated by trainers from Partner Foundation (Moscow) and had discussion with Azalia and Partners' trainers after the sessions.
- During the quarter CD took part in Democracy Commission Grant Awarding Committee and UNDP funded "Social NGO program" grant committee meetings.
- In June CD had a meeting with Todd Drummond from GTD and Will Melara from USAID where NGO management workshop concept to be funded by GTD was finalized.
- In May 2001, 8 roundtables on oblast level were conducted by CC Kyrgyzstan and CSSCs under the agreement with CDF team of the World Bank. The main aim was to introduce final versions of CDF and NPRS documents, collect and summarize comments. The report was compiled and sent to the CDF Team under the Ministry of Finances. The final reports on NGO participation in CDF and NPRS in Russian were finalized and submitted to the CDF Team and WB.
- On June 21, Senior Program Officer A. Nusupov met with OSCE mission, consisting of Mr. A. Rodriguez, the NGO Adviser, Dr. M. Von Gumpfenberg, Human Dimension Officer, and Mr. K. Sorensen, President of Danish NGO Dialogue Development. They paid a visit to Bishkek for conducting reassessment and re-planning for OSCE programs in KYR, aimed at assisting human rights protection NGOs, and look at possibilities in developing activities on a regional level.
- The project #99/0439 with EU funding and aimed at strengthening the ability of local communities to advocate on behalf of their citizenry and ensuring their participation in decision-making process, is progressing in a satisfactory rate. Long-term institutional agreements with all 6 Centers were finalized and signed. This quarter, all CSSC were working on capacity building plan, and the initial OD assessment of all CSSCs was completed. The CSSCs have selected 33 target communities. Ms. C. Schruirer, the Co-director of Counterpart Germany and Mr. P. Zauer, Community Consultant visited Osh and Karakol Centers to observe PCAP process at the end of April. Then they shared a report with findings and recommendations.

- The contract with IOM funding, aimed at raising awareness of the dangerous and inhumane conditions and treatment faced by trafficked migrants, and develops anti-trafficking programming, was finished in June 2001. The final report on the project achievements was drafted and sent to IOM for comments. CC is preparing request for prolongation of the contract for 1.5 months to conduct follow-up activities at no additional costs since some project funds have been saved and some activities unaccomplished.
- The Health program is progressing well, the initial OD assessments were completed for 6 health NGOs, the Action Plans for Capacity Building and Service Delivery (CBP) were developed and finalized. The main shortcomings encountered include poor organizational management, weak financial situation (membership dues have not been collected adequately), and shortage of resources. The NGOs seem like project-driven organizations. Mrs. S. Muzurupkhanova was hired as Health Program Intern on short-term basis. Four training seminars were held for 66 representatives of 6 target NGOs. By the end of June, the health NGOs selected one target community each, and PCAs were scheduled for the next quarter.

TAJIKISTAN

Monthly meetings of Donor Organizations were held this quarter. During those meetings the idea of creating a broader forum of IOs focused on Civil Society Development appeared. That forum would address a device set of issues of Civil Society and NGO Development in Tajikistan and would function in addition to the existing donor organizations network. In the last donors' meeting a working group was formed to determine the principles of the Forum. The working group included representatives of Counterpart, Mercy Corps International, Soros Foundation, UNHCR and Aga Khan Foundation. Farhod Bokiev, Deputy Director, represented Counterpart. In the meeting of the working group Forum objectives and membership issues were discussed.

It was agreed that the results of the Working Group discussions would be shared with the other members of the monthly meeting of Donor Organizations at Counterpart in August for feedback and possible discussion. Then, on Friday, September 7, 2001, the first meeting of the proposed forum would be held. In addition to sharing of all relevant news and information, the participants will discuss their vision of "Contemporary Tajik Civil Society and Possible Future Direction(s)" at that first meeting.

- Attended monthly INGO Coordination Meeting – main issues of discussions were the security situation and taxation/social security funds for the local employees
- Met with UNHCR to reconcile discrepancies in funds delivered to Counterpart, reported to them for the first part of the UNHCR project
- Met with Japanese Embassy Affairs Officer and discussed Tajikistan NGOs and needs for technical assistance to NGOs and communities through JICA
- Met with Simon Jenkins, a consultant with IFES and discussed the issues related to tolerance education and priorities for improvements in the educational sector
- Negotiated with CADA to reduce the cost of e-mail services for the CSSCs. CADA is an e-mail provider for 3 of Counterpart CSSCs. The negotiations are still continuing. Counterpart is planning to bring to discussions Soros Foundation CADA's donor in e-mail project
- Met with Pragma Corporation Regional Association Development Program Officer. Pragma has opened its office in Khujand for Tajikistan and is looking for Association Development Coordinator who will be cooperating with Counterpart.
- The Pragma Regional Office introduced Pragma Corporation's program in Central Asia
- The new Country Director met with the Regional Director of USAID regarding the future possibilities of Counterpart Tajikistan.
- Met with the Media Specialist of OSCE Mission to Tajikistan regarding their request to use Khorog CSSC capacity in their program to promote free media in GBAO.

- Met with OSCE Gender Consultant do discuss OSCE training needs and possible cooperation in providing those trainings
- Counterpart Coordinator met with Human Rights Officer, United Nations Office of Peace Building and informed her about women NGOs working on Human Rights
- Met with the Institutional Advisor of CARE International to brief him about Counterpart programs. The purpose of the meeting was to plan the activity so not to duplicate each other.

TURKMENISTAN

- On May 8, Ms. Jennifer March of Eurasia Foundation met with members of 13 Target NGOs in Counterpart's training room to discuss potential funding of Turkmen NGOs and registration constraints in Turkmenistan. As a result, Eurasia is reconsidering its registration requirement for NGOs in Turkmenistan.
- On May 26 RC volunteers Roma Chelyavinsk demonstrated a Power Point Presentation that he had designed at a roundtable organized by ARCA NGO to attract returnees of US educational programs in hopes of recruiting them as volunteers. As a result of participation in the roundtable, the resource center has recruited a new volunteer, a student of Polytechnical Institute who is skilled in working with computers and software.
- UNICEF approved the fourth expansion of the Watsan Project to be implemented by Counterpart over the next 4 months totaling \$28,000
- UNFPA and the MCH team conducted three joint-monitoring visits in the regions and a roundtable on Women's reproductive health
- On May 10 and 29, 2001 Lebap staff participated in work meeting organized by UNHCR for all participants of training on "Micro business" and "Emergency Preparedness" sponsored by NRC. At the meeting, they discussed follow up activities with refugees and set up a schedule to conduct training in "Micro business" for refugees.
- During May the CSSC team assisted Counterpart's UNICEF project team to develop and hold a presentation of the results of the Watsan-3 project on hygiene and sanitation improvement in more than 110 schools of Turkmenbashi and Kunia-Urgench etrap of Dashoguz velayet. Representatives of 25 school of Dashoguz etrap, local authorities and the local Department of the Ministry of Education participated. A power-point presentation was shown using a computer projector, and the team demonstrated a film made by children of 110 schools using a Participatory Video approach. The presentation was interactive and emphasized the approach of involving the beneficiaries in the self-management of community infrastructure through group decision-making.

UZBEKISTAN

- Two meetings have been conducted with UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) on April 4 and June 14, 2001. Opportunities for co-operation of UNIDO and CC through CSSCs over Uzbekistan were discussed.
- NGO representative participated in the TOT program on the theory of conducting trainings, as well as development and conduction of the technical trainings, conducted from 25 till 29 of June in the training Center of Natural Resource Management Program.
- Albina Sabirova, trainer-contractor, participated in UNIDO seminar on Project Investment, conducted during 26-29th of June in order to learn experience of conducting trainings and to enrich Counterpart trainings.
- In the frames of the TACIS-Lien program 5-day seminar was conducted for the representatives of Centers of Social Adoption of Women of 8 Oblasts of Uzbekistan, with the purpose of giving knowledge in the field of NGO development.

- Negotiations with Open Society Institute/Soros Foundation-Uzbekistan have been conducting. It is planning to open 5 more Support Centers over Uzbekistan jointly in the following quarter. The Executive Director of ISO/Soros-Uzbekistan Alan Deletroz visited Network meeting conducted on 20th of June in Tashkent and met with all the CC Support Centers there.
- Naoko Sakai, a Program Coordinator of United Nation Volunteers (UNV), visited Network meeting with the purpose of negotiating future co-operation on the programs of International Year of Volunteers.
- June 25-29 five-day seminar for the representatives of Centers of Social Adaptation of the Women from 8 areas of Uzbekistan was conducted. The purpose was to give knowledge and skills in the field of organizational development of non-governmental noncommercial organizations. This seminar has become the finishing one in a series of seminars conducted within the framework of agreement between IB, Counterpart Deutschland and Counterpart Uzbekistan, on which 8 seminars in 8 cities of Uzbekistan were conducted earlier for the period from November 2000 to March 2001. 157 participants were trained, especially unemployed, poor women from rural areas.

G. LEVERAGING

KYRGYZSTAN

According to UNHCR request, Senior Program Officer A. Nusupov met with the representatives of Afghan and Tajik refugees residing in Bishkek, in order to compile a list of participants for the Micro-Business training, to be conducted with additional support of UNHCR. A sum of \$500 was earmarked to increase a training budget under the contract agreement 01/AB/KGZ/CM/200/c9\$.

TAJIKISTAN

During the quarter the amount of \$12,400 from UNHCR was spent to conduct nearly all the training workshops and hold the Volunteer Development Conference.

TURKMENISTAN

\$ 56,631 has been leveraged this quarter through:

- \$28,331 from UNICEF for Watsan 4 Project to continue water and hygiene education and community outreach activities in 20 schools of Yelanly and Koneurgench, and Turkmenbashi etrap of Dashoguz region for four months.
- \$8,000 from Exxon-Mobil to administer 2 grants: School for Blink Children and Summer Camp for Disabled Children through sub-contracts to NGOs in the framework of their “Contributions Program.”
- \$1,200 in sub-contract to Uchgun NGO in framework of Watsan-4 UNICEF project to conduct “Awareness Building Training” in 3 etrap of Dashoguz region. This includes 13 seminars for 200 participants.
- \$2,000 from US Embassy Democracy Fund to NGO Civic Dignity to attend Central Asian conference on “Human Trafficking”
- \$9,000 from Norwegian Refugee Council for 5 NGO reps, including I CC hub staff and 2 CSSC staffers to attend “Micro Business” training in Tashkent
- \$7,000 from Norwegian Refugee Council for 4 people to attend “Emergency Preparedness” training in Bishkek.
- \$1,100 from Global Training for NGO My Rights to attend conference in Kiev on Consumer Rights

UZBEKISTAN

For Dina Mukhamadieva’s participation in the Conference in Moscow International Organization of Trainers and Consultants *Intertraining* paid: accommodation, meals, partly transportation, conference materials - about \$400.

H. LESSONS LEARNED

KAZAKHSTAN

- In accordance with the work plan CC-Kazakhstan should establish 7th Civil Society Support Center. One of the major preferable areas could be Atyrau, located on the West of Kazakhstan. There are a few weak NGOs and a lot of oil companies in the region. That is a good point in terms of future social partnership and fundraising activities there. ISAR and UN represent International Donors' community there. During the last quarter negotiations between CC and ISAR has been started. The main point of this process is to establish collaboration in Atyrau within ISAR-Atyrau Resource Center for improving of NGO communities. However, a lack of funds in our country budget doesn't allow starting any activities there. That is why we have decided to look for additional funds for 7th CSSC in Atyrau.
- After approbation of PCA Model through Kazakhstan regions the next step is submitting proposals on the basis of the conducted PCA/CAP to CC in accordance with CAG program. At this stage all of our CSSCs revealed and identified one of the most concerns. This is a lack of skills and knowledge of our CSSCs staff in providing of consultations on proposal writing. We didn't into consideration the most of our CSSCs staff is so fresh and cannot provide any assistance in applying of proposals. That's why there is a few proposals were submitted to CC though our CSSC conducted a lot of PCA. The most appropriate way is to bring key people from CSSCs on Project Design training keeping in mind that it is necessary to organize a follow up on this topic.

TAJIKISTAN

The issue of working both on sustainability and implementing Counterpart programs with the limited budget remained the main problem. During the individual consultations with each Support Center, most of the problems were solved. For instance, to stay within the limits of the budget, Counterpart suggested the Centers to review the management-administration system and exclude some unneeded expenses. To stimulate the fulfillment of other programs than Phase III by them, for example CRD, it was decided to allocate an amount of money from those programs for covering their expenses on the same programs.

TURKMENISTAN

Our experience implementing the pilot community outreach project in Lebap was tremendously successful. We were able to integrate the Lebap SC team directly in field activities which was a trial by fire experience which proved both challenging and rewarding. Their dedication and hard work was witnessed by members of the local hakimlik who were assigned to monitor the process. As a result, the Deputy Hakim has proposed opening up a full-fledged CSSC office in the capital of the region, Turkmenabad, but the end of July. At the same time, it was unrealistic to pursue the pilot community project in Garagum village of Mary region simultaneously with the Lebap pilot was so resource and time-intensive. Our strategy in Mary is still evolving and will require a very close assessment of the tightening of internal security in that region.

II. SECTOR SPECIFIC SUPPORT: THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR NOT-FOR-PROFIT LAW

A. PROJECT PURPOSE

The purpose of the Counterpart/ICNL Consortium is:

Assist in the development of a comprehensive legal and fiscal framework that will support and strengthen the NGO sector.

The purpose of ICNL is:

Develop a legislative environment that is supportive of the long-term growth of the NGO sector in Central Asian countries.

B. PROJECT IMPACTS

KAZAKHSTAN

The New Tax Code Was Adopted

On June 12, 2001, the President of Kazakhstan signed the new Kazakh Tax Code, which will become effective on January 1, 2002. Once the new Tax Code takes effect, the system of benefits for nongovernmental noncommercial organizations in Kazakhstan will change considerably, since the new Tax Code provides for numerous new conceptual approaches regarding the taxation of NGOs. The new Tax Code will significantly improve the status of NGOs as compared to current legislation.

Nongovernmental organizations together with ICNL took an active part in the creation of the Tax Code beginning with its earliest drafts. In large part due to coordinated and persistent work of ICNL and other NGOs with the drafters of the new Tax Code, most of the initial provisions, which would have significantly worsened the position of NGOs, did not make it into the final version. ICNL's efforts with assisting NGOs to carry effective public campaign paid off with adopting a generally progressive tax code.

One of the most progressive features of the new Tax Code is the income tax exemption for certain types of passive income earned by NGOs. Public associations, foundations, and associations (unions) of legal entities are not required to pay income tax on interest earnings from bank deposits or from debt securities (discount or coupon). This tax benefit for noncommercial organizations is a first not only for Kazakhstan but for all of Central Asia. This is a significant step towards the creation of a favorable tax environment for development of the NGO sector, since it will encourage, for example, the establishment of foundations that can finance their activities using the interest from funds in bank deposit accounts or bonds.

Another important provision of the new Tax Code provides that organizations engaged in specified social sector activities will be exempt from income tax on earnings from economic activities related to these social sector activities. The benefit can be claimed only if an organization is exclusively engaged in an activity in the social sector. The Tax Code provides an exhaustive list of activities belonging to the social sector, including healthcare, education, science, amateur sports, culture, archives, library services, and social protection of children, the elderly, or the disabled. However, if an organization combines such activities with other activities that are not included in the list, the exemption is lost, and all income (including earnings from activities in the social sector) is subject to taxation.

The third significant change to the Tax Code in favor of NGOs is the new tax rates for NGOs on property and real estate. Public associations, foundations, and associations (unions) of legal entities

will enjoy a reduced property tax rate of 1/10th of the standard rate. Noncommercial organizations will also pay the land tax at a reduced 1/10 rate of the standard assessment.

TAJIKISTAN

ICNL Succeeded in Reducing Registration Fees for NGOs

ICNL technical assistance with the legislation addressing registration of legal entities in Tajikistan led to adoption of the new progressive regulation No.132 which considerably reduced the registration fees for NGOs. Thus, the new fees for local NGOs are now equal to 20 and 50 minimum local salaries, which, is approximately \$30 and \$60 for regional and national (republican) NGOs, respectively. Previously, the registration fee for regional NGOs was \$165, for national NGOs - \$245. The fee was also reduced for international non-profit organizations from \$750 to \$600.

UZBEKISTAN

Commentary on NGO Law Published

ICNL completed a project directed at the publication of a booklet with comments on the NGO law, including a comprehensive interpretation of the provisions of the new law. Utilization of this commentary will allow more effective and progressive implementation of the NGO law provisions. Several governmental institutions contributed to its preparation. These contributions will provide the commentary with semi-official status and allow it to be used as manual for government officials carrying out registration and supervision of NGOs. The commentary will be broadly distributed among NGOs to educate them about their rights based on the new law. NGOs will greatly benefit by having access to the commentary and thereby help to ensure more effective implementation of the law.

C. ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

REGIONAL

NGO/Government Partnership International Conference

ICNL Partners from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan participated at an international conference organized for government officials, NGO organizations and lawyers. The conference was held in Croatia, Opatija on April 27-28, 2001 and organized by ICNL. The purpose of this event was to learn and discuss issues of the cooperation between NGOs and government and various mechanisms of such cooperation. Participants from over 25 countries took part on the conference, which provided an excellent opportunity for the Central Asian staff to learn more on the topic and exchange experiences with participants. ICNL partners had an opportunity to immediately apply gained knowledge in assisting Confederation of Non-Governmental Non-Commercial Organizations (CNOK) in Kazakhstan to create a Concept for NGO-government Social Partnerships that was submitted to the Kazak Presidential Administration. This experience will also be shared with NGOs and government representatives at the conferences on social partnership issues in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan in fall 2001.

Central Asian Regional Conference on NGO Taxation

On May 28 and 29, 2001, (Kyrgyzstan, Issyk-Kul) ICNL, with the assistance of the USAID/Global Training for Development Project (GTD), held a regional conference on the issue of taxation of non-governmental, non-commercial organizations in Central Asia. Discussion focused on the generation and implementation of policies that impact the taxation of non-government, non-commercial organizations. Also, another important emphasis was given to financial sustainability of NGOs, which is a problem in all CA countries. In addition, participants established cross-boarder contacts with colleagues from other countries. Representatives of governments, Parliaments and NGOs from

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan participated. The principal speakers at the conference were key Central Asian figures from the governmental and NGO sectors. As a follow up to this conference ICNL has been providing technical assistance with drafting amendments to tax laws in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. In the course of preparation to the Central Asian conference on taxation of NGOs, ICNL Partners in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan have been preparing the NGO taxation overviews in their countries. These materials were included to handouts of the conference as well as being distributed to all interested parties upon request.

Partners' Visit to ICNL Headquarters/Washington DC

ICNL partners from Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan visited ICNL headquarters in Washington DC at the beginning of June. During this visit, ICNL provided its CA partners with a comprehensive overview of international principles governing NGOs, comparative data available at ICNL on NGO regulations in other countries, and ICNL's methodology in its work. ICNL partners had an opportunity to learn from ICNL's team of international experts, to meet with prominent lawyers dealing with NGO legal issues in the US, and to share experience with visiting lawyers from other countries (UK, New Zealand, Slovakia, Azerbaijan, South Africa, Pakistan, Slovakia, and Bulgaria), who are ICNL partners, consultants, and members of the board or supervisory council. For the first time ever, ICNL's CA partners they had an opportunity to network with such a broad number of experts working on NGO law reforms in different countries. They participated in numerous informal training and interactive sessions with ICNL personnel aimed at improving their skills and knowledge of NGO practices and developments in other regions of the world. The experiences and legislation of other countries, particularly those in Western and Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) would be very valuable to the countries of CA, and discussions were conducted as to how ICNL's CEE and CA programs could better interact and develop operational ties. In addition, they were also able to participate in ICNL's annual staff retreat at which they effectively address CA programmatic and management issues with the ICNL senior management.

KAZAKHSTAN

Technical Assistance with Drafting Laws

NGO Law

ICNL held meetings with officials in Astana on the issue of organizing a training session to be scheduled this fall for NGOs and government officials on the implementation of the new NGO law. These meetings resulted in agreement on joint preparation of the an article-by-article commentary. ICNL agreed with the initiators of the law and members of Parliament to cooperate on the compilation of this commentary.

Concept for Social Procurement

ICNL assisted the Confederation of Non-Governmental Non-Commercial Organizations (CNOK) in the process of drafting a concept on social procurement. This concept describes the stages of the cooperation of NGO sector with the Government by means of a system of using NGOs to provide socially necessary services, which are otherwise provided by the government. The key element of the concept is the subsequent drafting of a new law on social procurement. In spring the draft concept was submitted by CNOK to the Administration of the President. ICNL offered significant assistance in the drafting of the document. ICNL's suggestions were centered on legal regulation of social procurement and made up nearly half of the submitted proposal. By June, the conception had gone through different ministerial stages for their review and approval, and the majority of ICNL's recommendations were retained. The concept is in the final stage of approval, after which it will be necessary to begin drafting of the law. ICNL has begun researching and compiling materials for use in the draft law.

Cooperation

Persecution of several local NGOs in Response to Mass Media Law

At the request of the USAID and NDI ICNL provided legal advice to Kazakh NGOs prosecuted by government agencies. In spring, six partner organizations of the National Democratic Institute (NDI) were investigated by different governmental organizations including the financial police, office of the tax inspector, and the prosecutor's office. It is believed that one of the reasons behind the investigations was the recent active participation of the NGOs in the public campaign to defeat the amendments to the Law on Mass Media.

Two of the cases were being pursued on the grounds that the NGOs were unlawfully receiving foreign funding. ICNL explained that the legislative prohibition regarding foreign funding pursuant to Article 5 of the Law on Public Associations applies only to political parties and trade unions and not to non-governmental, non-commercial organizations such as the above-mentioned partners of NDI. In one instance, a procedural violation was committed when the financial police conducted an overly broad seizure of documents. After ICNL suggested to the NGO that a request be made to indicate the scope of the investigation, including specific alleged violations, the investigation was suspended and the documents were returned.

At the request of USAID, ICNL representatives met with USAID officials including the director of USAID Central Asia, Glen Anders, ODT director, Kathryn Stratos, legal counsel, and others. USAID was briefed as to the provisions of the applicable laws and the assistance that was provided to NDI. A future meeting in Astana was proposed, and ICNL expressed its willingness to assist in the future while also expressing the desire to remain committed to its important role as an honest broker.

KYRGYZSTAN

ICNL Continues Working on Implementation Issues

ICNL's partner was included in the working group under the Parliament's Committee on the Affairs of Public Associations. The objectives of the working group are, firstly, to incorporate into the country's legislation NGO recommendations for improving NGO legislation, and secondly, to formulate legislative amendments and recommendations to the NGO law and charity law. For the past 6 months ICNL partner has been discussing NGO legislation with NGOs and collecting their recommendations on how to improve it.

Taxation Issues

ICNL's partner is in the process of preparing comments and suggestions on the improvement of the existing tax legislation for NGOs. To substantiate its proposed amendments to the tax code, ICNL is collecting and researching empirical tax data, which would provide quantitative support for its arguments on the need to provide tax incentives to donors and tax benefits to NGOs.

In June the lower chamber of Parliament adopted amendments to the Tax Code reducing the income tax rate for corporations from 30 to 10% and for individuals to 10%. If the President and the upper chamber of Parliament eventually approve these amendments, they would stand as some of the most radical fiscal reforms ever adopted in the NIS. Deputies hope that these amendments will stimulate the growth of businesses of both legal entities and individuals and encourage them to declare their actual incomes. The rates reduction would substantially benefit NGOs as well as other tax payers.

TAJIKISTAN

Technical Assistance with Drafting Laws

Draft Law on Registration of Legal Entities

After ICNL's round table in March on state registration of legal entities, the Government adopted resolution No. 132 amending registration fees for NGOs (See Impact Section above). Also, as a follow-up to the conference, ICNL prepared a package of recommendations to the draft law. Several recommendations were considered by the drafters and included in the law. One of these recommendations simplified the procedure for appealing in court any registration denials by the Minister of Justice. In addition, the local ICNL partner held several meetings concerning ICNL recommendation at the Ministry of Justice and the President's Office and further submitted and discussed our proposals.

Seminars for NGOs

Together with GTD, the ICNL partner in Tajikistan organized two seminars in two regions. The first seminar "Legal aspects of NGO Activity for the Mass Media Representatives in Tajikistan" was conducted June 18-19, 2001 in Kairakum, Khudjand oblast. ICNL invited 24 participants, including representatives from the Tajikistan local governments and the President's office as well as non-profit non-governmental newspapers and TV programs from eight oblasts. ICNL's expert introduced to participants the international principles of NGO legislation and described provisions of local legislation regulating the activities on the non-profit mass media organizations. One of the main goals of the seminar was to educate mass media leaders on NGO legislation. Another goal of the seminar was to achieve cooperation between the governmental bodies and the NGO sector. This seminar became a part of the framework of the larger assistance effort for NGOs in the public sphere since the success of the nonprofit sector as a whole, in terms of its ability to develop financial resources, including new sources of support, the commitment of volunteers, and public support for the missions of organizations, depends on the public's perception of the sector as ethical, efficient, and effective. Increasing public awareness of norms governing well-managed nonprofit organizations may enable donors and citizens to make better-informed decisions regarding the use of resources.

Another seminar "The Legal and Fiscal Status of Non-Commercial Organizations in Tajikistan" was organized in Dushanbe June 21-22, 2001. It was an interactive 2-day seminar for 26 NGO representatives from five different regions of Tajikistan. The ICNL specialist provided up-to-date information on the status of NGO legislation in the country as well as the prospects of its development. It was an opportunity for NGOs to discuss current problems they face every day in practice.

TURKMENISTAN

ICNL's Project of Developing NGO legislation has been postponed

ICNL is awaiting approval of its project proposal for developing NGO legislation in Turkmenistan. ICNL Regional director conducted a trip to Ashgabad in early April to explore means of providing assistance in Turkmenistan. If the current proposal approved by the USAID ICNL will be working with the Turkmen National Institute of Democracy and Human Rights under the President of Turkmenistan. The purpose of the project is through analysis of the current Turkmen legislation and practices, and doing comparative study with laws of other countries to identify the problems with and the ways to improve the legal environment for NGOs. If successful, this project will lay the ground for drafting better NGO laws.

UZBEKISTAN

Publication of Brochure on NGO Law Implementation

ICNL completed a project directed at the publication of a booklet with comments on the NGO law, including a comprehensive interpretation of the provisions of the new law. The utilization of this commentary will allow more effective and progressive implementation of the NGO law provisions. Several governmental institutions contributed to its preparation. These contributions will provide the commentary with semi-official status and allow it to be used as manual for government officials carrying out registration and supervision of NGOs. The commentary will be broadly distributed among NGOs to educate them about their rights based on the new law. NGOs will greatly benefit by having access to the commentary and thereby help to ensure more effective implementation of the law. The document has been translated into the English and Uzbek languages and available to all interested parties from the ICNL web site www.icnl.org or in hard copy. The commentary is broadly distributed among NGOs to educate them about their rights under the new law.

Technical Assistance with Drafting Laws

Draft Law on Foundations

ICNL had valuable opportunity of working on the draft Law on Foundations from the beginning of its conceptual process. The first important step was the April 16 seminar that ICNL spearheaded along with the support the Committee of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Democratic Institutions, Non-Governmental Organizations and Self-Regulating Bodies, and the National Human Rights Center of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The title of the seminar was “Legislative Regulation of Public Foundations,” and its purpose was to better develop the conceptual provisions of the draft Law on Foundations. Speakers included the Chair of the Committee, Akmal Saidov, and the director of the Center for the Study of Legal Problems in the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shamil Asyanov. Participants included NGOs, deputies, academicians, and officials from the Ministry of Justice. ICNL’s experts spoke on legal regulation of foundations in Central Asia and how foundations are formed and regulated in common law and civil law countries. In addition, common themes, variations, and a number of examples were offered. The exchange was robust and a large number of ideas and proposals were debated and discussed. The seminar resulted in specific concepts that will form the incipient process of drafting the law on foundations. An article about the seminar was in the local paper, the “People’s Word.”

Resolution of the Government on the Procedure of Rendering Humanitarian Aid in the Republic of Uzbekistan

In early spring, the Cabinet of Ministers issued a draft resolution regulating the humanitarian aid in the Republic of Uzbekistan. Although the text of the draft resolution was distributed semiofficially at the meeting of the "Monitoring Group within the Social Department of the Cabinet of Ministers of Uzbekistan," ICNL was approached by USAID and was requested to comment on this document. Several international organizations also participated in the discussion of this document. The draft resolution was criticized by various international organizations due to its poorly written content and numerous inconsistencies. ICNL submitted its comments to the department coordinating the humanitarian aid within the Cabinet of Ministers. Due to the temporary unavailability of the principals at the Cabinet of Ministers who are working on the resolution, there has been no current activity. Oddly enough, the Cabinet of Ministers applied for a grant from Soros to assist in drafting the resolution and was recently denied assistance due to several OSI rules prohibiting such assistance.

NGO Law Implementation

ICNL Partner’s diligence and persistence resulted in GTD approving the five seminars in five cities on NGO law implementation. The first seminar took place in Fergana on June 28. ICNL experts from Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan talked on the following issues: 1) Procedure of creation and state registration of NGOs; 2) Governing bodies of NGOs; 3) Existing tax benefits for NGOs; 4) Sources of financing for NGOs and other issues. The seminar resulted on the agreement reached between governmental bodies and NGOs for an open dialogue to cooperate and mutually assist each other, to help and consult with NGOs regarding registration issues prior to their submission of registration

documents, and to eliminate barriers in registration. NGOs obtained information on tax benefits that they previously were unaware of. Also, ICNL experts spoke on various types of NGOs existing in the legislation as well as positive and negative aspects in choosing a certain form. The second seminar has been planned for July 31 in the Karshi region.

D. COORDINATION AND COOPERATION

REGIONAL

US and International Organizations: ICNL has been closely cooperating with regional Counterpart Consortium and its in-country offices. All ICNL activities have also been coordinated with the USAID regional and in-country offices. Cooperation has included such activities as presentations to Counterpart and the NGOs it supports and submissions of articles to a Counterpart publication that addresses questions posed by NGOs. ICNL has been maintaining cooperative relations with the following organizations: USIS; ABA; NDI; Barents Group; GTD; Soros Foundation, Eurasia Foundation, the World Bank, TACIS, OSCE, UNHCR, and UNDP. On a regular basis ICNL is updating other USAID grantees on developments in the NGO legislation around the region and on its activities and plans.

KAZAKHSTAN

NGOs: Vadim Nee, ICNL's main partner and NGO legal expert; Valentina Sivrukova, President of NGO umbrella organization -- Confederation of Non-Commercial Organizations of Kazakhstan, Sholpan Baibolova, Tax Culture Formation Foundation; the Shymkent Association of Attorneys; Kuralai Karakulova, ANNOK (Association of Non-Governmental Non-Commercial Organizations of Kazakhstan); the Association of the Invalids Organizations "Zhan"; Women and Law; the NGO "Legal Initiative: CASDIN; Legal Development of Kazakhstan; "Pokoleniye" Pensioners NGO; Roman Podoprigora, "Adilet" Higher School of Law.

Government Officials and Deputies of the Parliaments: Zharmakhan Tujakbai, Speaker of the Majilis; Oralbai Abdykarimov, Speaker of Senate; Sergey Zhalybin, Majilisman; Irak K. Elekeev, Head of the Majilis Office; Sabyr A. Kasimov, Deputy; Ermek Zhumabaev, Chairman of Committee on Legislation and Justice-Legal Reform; Basurmanov Zhumabek, the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights with the President; Vesnin Victor Nikolaevich, the Deputy of the Lower Chamber of the Parliament; Peter P. Kolesov, the Senator (the Upper Chamber) of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan; Yaroslav Shevtsov, Chief Specialist of the Department of Economic Legislation of the Institute of Legislation with the Ministry of Justice; Nurlan S. Moldokhmetov, Deputy Minister, and Kubasova Irina Alexandrovna, the Director of the Legislative Department of the Ministry of Justice; Shymkent Lawyers Association.

KYRGYZSTAN

US and International Organizations: ICNL has been closely cooperating with Counterpart International and its in-country offices. All ICNL activities have been coordinated with the USAID regional and in-country offices. ICNL has been maintaining cooperative relations with the following organizations: USIS; ABA; NDI; Barents group; GTD; Soros Foundation, Eurasia Foundation, the World Bank, TACIS, OSCE, UNHCR, and UNDP. On a regular basis ICNL is updating other USAID grantees on developments on the NGO legislation around the region and on its activities and plans.

NGOs: Yuri Khvan, ICNL's legal partner, Mirgul Smanalieva, Kyrgyz lawyer, the Vice-President of the Association Attorneys of Kyrgyzstan and ICNL's local partner; Irina Ryzhykh, NGO - Chamber of Tax Consultants; Ainura Orosolieva, Chairman of the Fund of Legal Initiatives; International Center Interbilim; the Coalition of NGOs for a Civil Society; Institute for Regional Studies; Forum of NGOs.

Government Officials and Deputies of the Parliaments: Akimov Batyr Muradovich, the Head of the Legislative Department and Zukhra Taranova, the Deputy Chief of the Registration Department of the Ministry of Justice; deputies Alisher Sabirov, Kabai Karabekov, Akylbek Japarov, Oksana Malevannaya, Andrei Loboda, Aleftina Pronenko and other deputies of the Parliament; Pamir Shentaev, Department of Education in the Kyrgyzstan Parliament.

TAJIKISTAN

US and International Organizations: Muatar Haidarova has regular meetings with representatives of USAID, USIS, US Department and other organizations on various issues. Thus, Muatar met with Ms. Ilo-Mai Harding, a representative of US Department of State, who is the senior program manager in the Department of Educational and Cultural Affairs. They discussed the role of US exchange programs in the development of democracy process in Tajikistan, where Muatar suggested to help with the preparation of legal documents for registration of this association of Alumni in Tajikistan. Muatar also met with Mr. Andre Loersch from Civic Development Media Support, Research and Analysis (Geneva) who came to Tajikistan with the duty of Swiss Agency for International Cooperation. The spoke on the possibility to help NGOs as well as Government structures on the development of civil society in Tajikistan. Muatar learned from this meeting that the Swiss Government has plan to render financial support in this issue. Muatar has been invited by OSCE to an economic forum "Transparency and Good Governance in Economic Matters" held in Prague, May 15-18, 2001. Muatar gave a presentation on this event on the transparency and good governance of NGOs. Muatar Khaidarova, ICNL's local partner and a widely respected lawyer and well-known NGO activist, has been closely working with government officials on issues of registration of legal entities. In addition, international organizations operating in Tajikistan regularly seek Muatar's advice on legal issues. As a result, ICNL's partner has been regularly invited to various international and domestic conferences and workshops to speak on the issues concerning NGO legislation. Muatar is recognized as a professional lawyer and a very well known NGO activist.

NGOs: Muatar Khaidarova, ICNL's partner and Chairman of Society and Law; Fund for Support of Civil Initiatives; Youth Ecological School; Olij Somon; Fund of Legal Reform; Association of Intelligentsia; the Center of Youth Initiatives, Khujant, Tajikistan.

Government Officials and Deputies of the Parliaments: The Minister of Justice Ismailov Shavkat Makmudovich; Davlatov Davlatali, the State Adviser of the President on Relations with the Public and National Minorities; Bakhram Ali-Zade, Director of Center of Coordination of External Assistance with the Cabinet of Ministers of Tajikistan;

TURKMENISTAN

NGOs: Turkmen National Institute of Democracy and Human Rights under the President of Turkmenistan; Brian Gill, ABA/CEELI, The International Planned Parenthood Foundation; Bess Brown, OSCE project; Jens Wandel, Resident Representative of UNDP in Turkmenistan; Francoise Muller Lauritzen of the UNHCR mission group; Fraser Wilson, British Ambassador; Gerd-Michael Triller, Charge d'Affaires, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany; and Michael Wilson, of TACIS.

Government Officials and Deputies of the Parliaments: Dr. Yolbars A. Kepbanov, Director of the National Institute of Democracy and Human Rights, Abram Mogilevsky, Scientific Secretary of the National Institute of Democracy and Human Rights.

UZBEKISTAN

US and International Organizations: ICNL Partner, Dinara Mirzakarimova, established many useful contacts with various international organizations operating in Uzbekistan that will lead to many possibilities of organizing joint events. Among these organizations are ABA/CEELI, UNDP, Soros Foundation, Eurasia and many others. Many groups and organizations have an active interest in ICNL's legislative project.

NGOs: Dinara Mirzakarimova, Uzbek lawyer (ICNL's main partner); Itkin Yuri Markavich, Chairman of the Association of Accountants and Auditors; Gulnara Dosumova, Head of the NGO "Renessans", in Nukus, Karpakalpakstan Region, Uzbekistan; Shamil Asyanov, Chairman of the Law NGO "Center for Study of Legal Problems in Republic of Uzbekistan"; Ilkhom Karimov, Chairman of the Board, NGO "Tashkent Business Club"; Ravshan Khakimov, Chairman of Law NGO "Uzbek Association of International Law"; Akhtam Shymardanov, Head of the NGO "Chirchik dare"; Tadjikhon Saidikramova, Director of NGO "Association of Business women of Uzbekistan".

Government Officials and Deputies of the Parliaments: Akmal Saidov, Parliamentarian, Chairman of the Committee of Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, on Democratic Institutes, NGO and Self-Governing Bodies and Director of the National Center for Human Rights of Uzbekistan; Shavkat Galiakbarov, Head of the Department on International Cooperation of National Center for Human Rights of Uzbekistan; Jalloliddin Abdusatarov, head of the NGO Bureau, Ministry of Justice; Talgat Beerketov, Head of the Legal Department, Ministry of Justice; Akhtam Toursunov, Director, and Gasanov Mikhail Yusupovich, Deputy-Director of the Institute of Monitoring of the Current Legislation of Oliy Majlis (Parliament); Sayera Rashidova, the Authorized Person for Human Rights (Ombudsman); Rustam Bakhramov, Head of the Department on of tax methodology improvement, State Tax Committee of Uzbekistan.

E. LEVERAGING

REGIONAL

GTD financial assistance in the organization of the regional NGO Taxation Conference – information on exact amount of money spent for the conference you can find at USAID

On May 28 and 29, 2001, ICNL with the assistance of the USAID/Global Training for Development (GTD) Project held a regional conference on the issue of taxation of non-governmental, non-commercial organizations in Central Asia. The conference took place at Lake Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan. Representatives of governments, Parliaments and NGOs from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan participated.

GRANT-RELATED ACTIVITIES

KAZAKHSTAN

CSSC Institutional Grants

Nuclear Tests Victims Union “IRIS”, East-Kazakhstan oblast, Semey (\$25,000.00)

A long-term partnership agreement was signed in April 2001. The grant was awarded for organizational strengthening of the CSSC and for provision of services to Kazakhstan NGOs and other Civil Society Institutions including Participatory Community Appraisals, 17 trainings, consultations (informational, project design, social partnership development, advocacy campaign, accounting and taxation), and technical assistance.

Consulting Center “ZUBR”, East-Kazakhstan oblast, Ust-Kamenogorsk (\$24,998.00)

The grant is awarded for organizational strengthening of the CSSC and for provision of services to Kazakhstan NGOs and other Civil Society Institutions including Participatory Community Appraisals, 11 CC trainings and 4 own modules, consultations (legislation, information, project design, accounting and taxation), social partnership development, advocacy campaign, volunteerism, monitoring and evaluation of Community Action Grants, technical assistance, and representative functions.

Entrepreneurship Development Agency “SMEDA”, Aktobe oblast, Aktobe (\$ 25,000.00)

The grant is awarded under a long-term partnership agreement between CC and the organization for organizational strengthening of the CSSC and for provision of services to Kazakhstan NGOs and other Civil Society Institutions including education, 22 CC trainings, consultations (legislation, taxation, fundraising, information, business correspondence), Community outreach, social partnership development, advocacy, volunteerism, monitoring and evaluation of grants, technical assistance, and representative functions.

Association of NGOs of Kostanai oblast, Kostanai oblast, Kostanai (\$25,000.00)

The grant is awarded for organizational strengthening of the CSSC and for provision of services to Kazakhstan NGOs and other Civil Society Institutions including Participatory Community Appraisals, 11 trainings, consultations, information, volunteers training, library, social partnership development, community outreach.

Association of Non-commercial legal organizations “Zhalgas-Counterpart”, Almaty oblast, Almaty (\$23,871.00)

The grant supports organizational development of the CSSC. Being one of CC branches it is building its own capacity in the following directions: Strategic Management, Governance, Financial Sustainability, and Human Resources.

Astana Civil Society Support Center, Akmola oblast, Astana (\$23,210.00)

The grant supports organizational development of the CSSC. Being one of CC branches it is building its own capacity in the following directions: Strategic Management, Governance, Financial Sustainability, and Human Resources.

Association of Non-commercial legal organizations “Zhalgas-Counterpart”, Almaty oblast, Almaty (\$24,170.00)

The grant is awarded for provision of services to Kazakhstan NGOs and other Civil Society Institutions including Participatory Community Appraisals, 24 trainings, advocacy campaign, monitoring and evaluation of Community Action Grants, consultations (accounting, legislation, organizational development, project design) information and technical support.

Astana Civil Society Support Center, Akmola oblast, Astana (\$24,170.00)

The grant is awarded for provision of services to Kazakhstan NGOs and other Civil Society Institutions including trainings, technical support, information, consultations, assistance in developing strategies for NGOs, CBOs for work with communities, Participatory Community Appraisals, trainings for volunteers, Partnership facilitation, Monitoring and Evaluation, advocacy.

Association of Non-commercial legal organizations “Zhalgas-Counterpart”, Almaty oblast, Almaty (\$24,400.00)

Purchase of a permanent working location (final payment).

Community Action Grants

Association “Baspana”, Almaty oblast, Almaty (\$ 5,004.00)

was awarded for setting up of a heating system in a dormitory. This project is directed on improvement of living conditions of social vulnerable people living in Zhas-Kanat community (Almaty). Conducted PCA (Participatory Community Appraisal) showed that people are ready to mobilize for building a system and the grant will help them to purchase needed materials.

Association “Baspana”, Almaty oblast, Almaty (\$5,000.00)

to build a sport complex for children and youth in Shanyrak-2 micro region (Almaty). This grant will help community living in this micro region to accustom children and youth to Healthy Life Style as well as to solve problems of their inoccupation.

Public Association “ISTOK”, East-Kazakhstan, Semey (\$5,000.00)

is awarded for growing of potato and building of a vegetable store. The community is children with pure vision and their parents living in Internat. This grant will help community to keep yield in its own vegetable store and to use sales proceeds for medicines, medical equipment and contact lenses for children as well as for class equipment (computer, printer, textbooks).

KYRGYZSTAN

Institutional Support Grants

CSSC, Interbilim, Osh

\$14,518 to provide NGOs/CBOs and communities of Osh Oblast with package of technical assistance, inclusive of delivering consultations, coaching, 18 training workshops, 10 round tables and information support within 12 months through Osh CSSC. Long-term agreement was made to establish a partnership between Resource Center Interbilim and Counterpart Consortium Kyrgyzstan, that includes conducting 4 follow-up workshops on OD assessment and monitoring CBP implementation. Grant funds are intended to cover cost of the office equipment, administrative and programmatic costs. Project includes co-financing from EU. The grant was approved by the internal Grant Committee on 17/05/2001.

CSSC, Interbilim, Bishkek

\$21,368 to provide NGOs/CBOs and communities of Bishkek and Alamudun Rayon with package of technical assistance, inclusive of delivering consultations, coaching, 20 training workshops, 7 round tables and information support within 12 months through Bishkek CSSC. Long-term agreement was made to establish partnership between Resource Center Interbilim and Counterpart Consortium Kyrgyzstan, that includes conducting 4 follow-up workshops on OD assessment and monitoring CBP implementation. Grant funds earmarked for the office equipment, administrative and programmatic expenses. The grant was approved by the internal Grant Committee on 17/05/2001.

CSSC, NGO Leader, Karakol

\$13,644 to provide NGOs/CBOs and communities of Issyk-Kul Oblast with package of technical assistance, inclusive of delivering consultations, coaching, 9 training workshops, 9 round tables and information support within 12 months through Karakol CSSC. Long-term agreement was made to establish a partnership between NGO Leader and Counterpart Consortium Kyrgyzstan, which envisions conducting 4 follow-up workshops OD assessment and monitoring CBP implementation. Grant funds are intended to cover costs of the office equipment, administrative and programmatic costs. The grant includes co-financing from EU. The grant was approved by the internal Grant Committee on 17/05/2001.

CSSC, Naryn

\$20,805 to provide NGOs/CBOs and communities of Naryn Oblast with package of technical assistance, inclusive of delivering consultations, coaching, 10 training workshops, 5 round tables and information support within 12 months through Naryn CSSC. Long-term agreement was made to establish a partnership between Naryn NGO Support Center and Counterpart Consortium Kyrgyzstan, that includes conducting 4 follow-up workshops on OD assessment and monitoring CBP implementation. Grant funds cover administrative and programmatic costs. The grant was approved by the internal Grant Committee on 17/05/2001.

Foundation for Tolerance International Batken Resource Center, Batken

\$2,770 to provide NGOs/CBOs and communities of Batken Oblast with package of technical assistance, inclusive of delivering consultations, coaching, 7 training workshops, 16 round tables and information support within 12 months through Batken CSSC. Long-term agreement was made to establish a partnership between Foundation for Tolerance International and Counterpart Consortium Kyrgyzstan, which envisions conducting 4 follow-up workshops on OD assessment and monitoring CBP implementation. The grant funds partly cover administrative and programmatic costs. The project includes significant co-financing from UNHCR and EU. The grant was approved by the internal Grant Committee on 17/05/2001.

CSSC, NGO Aibek, Kerben

\$1,240 to provide NGOs/CBOs and communities of Aksy and Ala-Buka Rayons with package of technical assistance, inclusive of delivering consultations, coaching, 5 training workshops, 6 round tables and information support within 12 month, through Kerben CSSC. Long-term agreement was made to establish a partnership between Naryn NGO Support Center and Counterpart Consortium Kyrgyzstan, that includes conducting 4 follow-up workshops on OD assessment and monitoring CBP implementation. The most part of the budget is covered by EU funds. The complementary financing covers travel expenses and OD activities only. The internal Grant Committee on 17/05/2001 approved the grant.

CSSC, Jalal-Abad

\$16,242 to provide NGOs/CBOs and communities of Jalal-Abad Oblast with package of technical assistance, inclusive of delivering consultations, coaching, 10 training workshops and information support within 12 months through Jalal-Abad CSSC. Long-term agreement was made to establish a partnership between the Jalal-Abad NGO Support Center and Counterpart Consortium Kyrgyzstan that includes conducting 4 follow-up workshops on OD assessment and monitoring CBP implementation. The project is co-financed by UNHCR. The grant funds cover administrative and programmatic costs. The internal Grant Committee on 17/05/2001 approved the grant.

CSSC “Consulting”, Kara-Balta

\$6,266 to provide NGOs/CBOs and communities of West of Chui Oblast with package of technical assistance, inclusive of delivering consultations, coaching, 9 training workshops and information support within 9 months through Kara-Balta CSSC. Long-term agreement was made to establish a partnership between ISC Consulting and Counterpart Consortium Kyrgyzstan, which envisions conducting 4 follow-up workshops on OD assessment and monitoring CBP implementation. The grant

funds covered administrative and programmatic costs. The project is co-financed by UNHCR. The internal Grant Committee on 17/05/2001 approved the grant.

CSSC, NGO Alga, Kant

\$1,997 to provide NGOs/CBOs and communities of East of Chui Oblast with package of technical assistance, inclusive of delivering consultations, coaching, 5 training workshops and information support within 9 month, through Kant CSSC. Long-term agreement was made to establish a partnership between NGO Alga and Counterpart Consortium Kyrgyzstan, which envisions conducting 4 follow-up workshops on OD assessment and monitoring CBP implementation. The grant funds cover administrative and programmatic costs. The project is co-financed by EU and UNHCR. The grant was approved by the internal Grant Committee on 17/05/2001.

CSSC, Chernobyl-Nookat, Nookat

Long-term agreement at no operational costs was made to establish creative partnership between NGO Chernobyl-Nookat and Counterpart Consortium Kyrgyzstan, which includes conducting 4 workshops on OD assessment, development and monitoring of implementation of capacity building plan. NGO Chernobyl Nookat covers all operational expenses. The internal Grant Committee on 17/05/2001 approved the agreement.

CSSC, Talas branch of Coalition “For Democracy and Civil Society”

The grant will provide NGOs/CBOs and communities of Talas oblast with package of technical assistance, inclusive of delivering consultations, coaching, 6 training workshops, 10 round tables and information support within 12 month, through Talas CSSC. Long-term agreement was made to establish a partnership between the Talas branch of Coalition of NGOs “For Democracy and Civil Society” and Counterpart Consortium Kyrgyzstan, which includes 4 workshops on OD assessment, development and monitoring of implementation of capacity building plan. The project is co-financed by EU and Soros Foundation. The internal Grant Committee on 17/05/2001 approved the grant.

Community Action Grants

Kyzyl-Suu community, Kyzyl-Suu Vl., Jeti-Oguz Rayon, Issyk-Kul Oblast

\$4,532 for renovating the sewerage system in Kyzyl-Suu village, Jeti-Oguz Rayon, Issyk-Kul Oblast. It is expected to have 656 people benefiting from the project. Duration of the grant is 3 months. The grant funds cover purchase of construction materials and construction services. The Grant Review Committee Meeting on 31/06/2001 approved the grant.

Kuu-Maidan community, Kuu-Maidan Vl., Nookat rayon, Osh Oblast

\$1,900 for repair of the water supply system in Kuu-Maidan village to provide 3,887 people of Kuu-Maidan with potable water. Duration of the grant is 3 months. Grant funds earmarked for the repair of existing well pumps and power transformer, construction materials, and installation costs. The Grant Review Committee Meeting on 31/06/2001 approved the grant.

Kun-Elek Vl. community initiative group, Alay Rayon, Osh Oblast

\$3,027 for renovating the roof of the secondary school in Kun-Elek Vl. within 3 months period. It is expected that 308 school children will benefit from the project. The grant funds cover construction materials costs. The Grant Review Committee Meeting on 31/06/2001 approved the grant.

Kun-Elek Vl. community initiative group, Alay Rayon, Osh Oblast

\$2,878 for the repair of the water supply system in Kun-Elek Vl. in 4 months period. It is expected that 1275 people of the village will be provided with access to potable water as a result of the project. The grant funds cover construction materials cost. The project includes co-financing by UNDP. The Grant Review Committee Meeting on 31/06/2001 approved the grant.

Aigul-Tash village community initiative group, Batken Oblast

\$1,931 for repairing the water pump station within 3 month to provide 250 people of the village of Aigul-Tash with access to potable water and irrigation water. The grant funds earmarked for purchasing 2 water pumps with electric motors and costs of construction materials. The project includes co-financing by UNDP. The Grant Review Committee Meeting on 31/06/2001 approved the grant.

NGO Suzak Ayimdary, Suzak Rayon, Jalal-Abad Oblast

\$4,777 for complete overhaul of the watersupply system in the Aral Vl. to provide 5,127 people with potable water. The grant funds cover costs of construction materials. The Grant Review Committee Meeting on 31/06/2001 approved the grant.

NGO Kyshtak Ayimdary, Leninskoe Vl., Suzak Rayon, Jalal-Abad Oblast

\$5,010 for constructing a water pipeline in the village of Leninskoe to provide 360 families with potable water. The grant funds cover costs of construction materials. The Grant Review Committee Meeting on 31/06/2001 approved the grant.

Initiative group of Ugut Vl., Ak-Talaa Rayon, Naryn Oblast

\$2,010 for repairs of the water supply system in the village of Ugut to provide 838 people with potable water. Duration of the project is 2 months. The grant funds cover costs of construction materials. The Grant Review Committee Meeting on 31/06/2001 approved the grant.

Inititive group of Tash-Bashat Vl., Ak-Talaa Rayon, Naryn Oblast

\$1,122 for thorough repair of the water supply system in the village of Tash-Bashat to provide potable water to the village population. Duration of the project is 2 months. The grant funds cover costs of construction materials. The Grant Review Committee Meeting on 31/06/2001 approved the grant.

Bek-Jar village community, Karasuu Rayon, Osh Oblast

\$3,255 to complete extension to the village school building in 3 month to provide children in Bek-Jar village with better access to secondary education. The grant funds cover construction materials cost and transportation. The Grant Review Committee Meeting on 29/06/2001 approved the grant.

Jele-Dobo village community, Jety-Oguz Rayon, Issyk-Kul Oblast

\$4,167 for repairing the water-supply system in the village of Jele-Dobo in 7 month period to provide 871 people with potable water. The grant funds cover construction materials cost, transportation and construction services. The Grant Review Committee Meeting on 29/06/2001 approved the grant.

Tash-Bashat village community, Naryn Oblast

\$2,829 for thorough repairs of the water-channel in the village of Tash-Bashat in 2 month period to provide people with water for irrigation. The grant funds cover construction materials cost, transportation and rent of pneumatic drill. The Grant Review Committee Meeting on 29/06/2001 approved the grant.

Staraya Pokrovka village community, Osh oblast

\$2,219 for thorough repairs of water-supply system in the village of Staraya Pokrovka in 3 month to provide 1587 people with potable water. The grant funds cover construction materials cost, transportation and construction services. The grant was approved by the Grant Review Committee Meeting on 29/06/2001.

Aigul-Tash community, Batken Oblast

\$1,333 for remodeling secondary school building in the village Aigul-Tash in 2-month period. It is expected that 54 school children will benefit from the implementation of the project. The grant funds cover construction materials cost and office supplies. The grant was approved on Grant Review Committee Meeting on 29/06/2001

Chon-Gara village community, Batken Oblast

\$2,109 for repairing the water-pump station in 3-month period to provide population of the village of Chon-Kara (2517 people) with potable water. The grant funds cover purchase of pumps engine, pipes and other construction materials, and transportation. The Grant Review Committee Meeting on 29/06/2001 approved the grant.

Jany-Turmush village community, Talas Oblast

\$4,164 for finishing construction of secondary school building in the village of Jany-Turmush in 7 months period. It is expected that 186 children will have better facilities in the secondary school after the project completed. The grant funds cover construction materials costs, and services. The Grant Review Committee Meeting on 29/06/2001 approved Grant

Initiative Group Manas1000, Talas

\$4,668 for conduction of 8 seminars for at least 400 people in Talas, creation of library of donated books, and creation of the Center of Culture and Relaxation of Youth District of Talas in 12 months period. The grant funds cover construction materials costs, construction services, such as drainage and preparation of territory for the Center of Culture and Relaxation. The Grant Review Committee Meeting on 29/06/2001 approved the grant.

Japalak VI., Osh Oblast

\$4,848 for construction of water-supply system for villages of Kenesh and Tatar in 3 months period to provide 3,338 people with potable water. The grant funds cover construction materials cost, transportation and construction services for the water tower and pipelines. The Grant Review Committee Meeting on 29/06/2001 approved the grant.

UNHCR Small Grants Program**NGO Radjab Ata, Kyzyl-Kyia Town, Batken Oblast**

\$1,860 is awarded to strengthen representation of local and refugee communities of Kyzyl-Kya Town and expand services to expand and broaden the service package for refugees through strengthening resource base of the NGO. The objectives of the 12- month project are: (1) equipping the office with computer, printer and copy machine, (2) conduct needs assessment of the refugees of Kyzyl-Kya through conducting survey and regular meetings, and (3) To provide services at least 60 refugees, including assistance in filling papers to apply for public services and citizenship, promotion of refugee initiatives aimed at integration, and (4) To attract governmental and public attention to the refugee situation through regular dissemination of information about the activities of the NGO. The requested sum is intended to cover salary of the trainers (\$180), stationery (\$40), furniture (\$70), office renovation (\$180), copy machine CANON FC-200 (\$320), computer (\$745), printer (\$320), and UPS (\$140). The NGO undertakes to make contribution of \$512 mostly covering salary for the project director, and travel expenses.

NGO Sayron, Ivanovka VI., Issyk-Ata Rayon, Chuy Oblast

\$1,963 to expand consultative and technical assistance to refugees of Issyk-Ata. The 12 month project objectives are: (1) provide consultations in legal matters (24 hours a month, 32 refugees a month) and in agricultural issues (8 hours a month and 50 refugees a month), (2) conduct at least 8 seminars on human rights family planning, and (3) conduct at least 4 roundtables to discuss refugee issues and evaluate impacts of assistance rendered. The requested sum is intended to cover salaries of 4 project staff (\$681), consultant honoraria (300), travel expenses (\$120), office rental (\$30), utilities (\$63), communication costs (\$49), stationery (\$60), training (\$280), copy machine (\$380). The NGO undertakes to contribute \$80 in worth of trainer-consultants' time.

NGO Meken Kalka, Manas VI., Alamedin Rayon, Chuy Oblast

\$1,496 to promote integration of refugees of Sokuluk Rayon through delivering services of information-consultative Center under the NGO Meken-Kalka. The 12 month project objectives include: (1) to provide refugees of Sokuluk Rayon with consultations in citizenship issues, housing registration, and income-generation activities, (2) to conduct PCA in the villages of Jany-Pakhta,

Jany-Jer and Nizhnechuyisk, and (2) to support revenue-generating activities of refugees through conducting one business skills seminar. The requested sum is intended to cover salaries of 3 project staff (\$600), travel expenses (\$160), office rental (\$200), communication costs (\$120), stationery (\$168), training (\$160), and furniture (\$120). The NGO undertakes to contribute \$600 for complementing salary costs, stationery, travel expenses, and training costs.

NGO Hireneso, Kara-Balta Town,, Chuy Oblast

\$500 to promote improvement of health of refugee families through forming 3 groups of activists dealing with sanitary and hygiene issues and through building skills of those groups. The 6 month project objectives are: (1) to design methodology of conducting seminars on family planning and compliance with sanitary norms, and to train 3 groups of activists (10 refugee women in each group) to popularize family planning and compliance with sanitary norms among refugees, (2) To provide consultative, information and technical support to those 3 groups through disseminating information, creating information stand and regular updating content. The requested sum is intended to cover salaries of 4 project staff (\$210), training expenses (\$230), communication costs (\$60). The NGO undertakes to contribute \$300 to complement the salary costs and utilities.

NGO Mok-Suu, Kainda, Panfilov Rayon, Chuy Oblast

\$1,200 to assist 342 refugee families of Panfilov Rayon in preparing and submitting documents for obtaining Kyrgyz citizenship and promoting their integration through providing information and consultative support. The 12 month project objectives are: (1) To assist 100 refugee families in preparing a package of papers for citizenship and registering housing ownership, (2) To assist refugees in renting at least 250 hectares of irrigated land, (4) To provide technical assistance to Aksakal Councils in identifying community problems and mobilizing resources to address them. The requested sum is intended to cover salaries of 3 project staff (\$420), training (\$150), travel expenses (\$129), copying (\$100), stationery (\$170), communication costs (\$96), utilities (\$84). The NGO undertakes to contribute \$30 for complementing salary budget.

NGO Farmer's House Yavan, Kainda, Panfilov Rayon, Chuy Oblast

\$1,000 to strengthen capacity of refugee farms and tenant refugee farms of Jayl, Moscow and Panfilov Rayons by means of providing a package of services, inclusive of training, consultations, lobbying their interests, facilitating cooperation with local authorities. The 6 month project objectives include: (1) To provide refugee farmers with services including consultations, seminars, assistance in developing business plans and information support, (2) to assist refugee/tenant farms in developing business plans, submitting applications for credits and in using fertilizers. The main result the project intends to generate is that at least 15 refugee farms developed action plans to ensure profitability, and that refugee farmers have a venue to discuss their problems and lobby own issues. The requested sum is intended to cover salaries of 3 project staff (\$450), training (\$150), travel expenses (\$160), office rental (\$60), stationery (\$100), communication costs (\$50), copying (\$30). The NGO undertakes to contribute \$150 for registering the organization, and other donors undertake to make input of \$704 for office furniture.

TAJIKISTAN

Institutional Grants

Institutional Grants documents were prepared and signed with each CSSC. So, starting from April 1 all the CSSCs are functioning through the Institutional Grants. The allocated amount for each institutional grant was identified as \$25.000 for the time period of two years. The following are the Tajikistan Institutional Grants and their numbers:

- TJK 02/01 – Khujnad CSSC
- TJK 03/01 – Kurghon-teppa CSSC – NGO Fidokor
- TJK 04/01 – Kulob CSSC
- TJK 05/01 – Khorug CSSC – NGO Qalam
- TJK 06/01 – Dushanbe CSSC

TURKMENISTAN

Institutional Grants

The first tranches of three Institutional grants were awarded to Civil Society Support Centers in Dashoguz, Mary and Lebap this quarter. The grants became effective on April 1, 2001:

\$12,422 for institutional grant TU2001-004 for *Mary SC* to implement the Program of Civil Society and NGO Development in the Central Asia region, and with UNHCR to develop the capacity of local NGOs and associations dealing with refugees, and to assist refugees to develop income generation activities for refugees.

\$11,936 for institutional grant TU2001-005 for *Lebap SC* to implement the Program of Civil Society and NGO Development in the Central Asia region, and with UNHCR to develop the capacity of local NGOs and associations dealing with refugees, and to assist refugees to develop income generation activities for refugees.

\$19,994 for institutional grant TU2001-006 for *Dashoguz SC* to implement the Program of Civil Society and NGO Development in the Central Asia region, based on: OD assessment; capacity building plan development; and development of an action plan.

Grant Monitoring Issues

The CC Grant Manager and CD carried out a monitoring visit of grantee *Ymut*, TU98-010 due to concerns that the vehicle awarded in 1998 would be confiscated by the Special Olympics Committee (former partner of *Ymut* under their grant). The vehicle is officially registered to *the Ymut Center for Social Adaptation*, however, *Ymut* was registered under the *Turkmenistan Special Olympics Committee* thus leading to an internal conflict which has lasted over ½ a year. Following the visit, Counterpart was requested by *Ymut* to temporarily remove the vehicle from Turkmenbashi City, Balkan Velayet, until the internal restructuring within the organization is resolved. The vehicle is temporarily housed on the Counterpart grounds.

UZBEKISTAN

On May 2, 2001 two short-term agreements were signed. Total amount of approved agreements is \$10,999.00. They are *Tashkent CSSC, Tashkent Center for Public Education, May 2, 2001 \$10,442.00 & Samarkand CSSC, May 2, 2001 \$557.00*. These agreements are signed under assessment and planning period to develop a partnership plan between NGO and Counterpart Consortium UZBEKISTAN within the framework of the Program of Civil Society and NGO development in the Central Asia Region. In these three months in-depth organizational development assessments have been conducted. Budgets for long term agreements are being drafted on the basis of the support centers' capacity building and service delivery action plans.

On May 1, 2001 three long-term agreements were signed with Bukhara, Kokand and Nukus CSSC. Total amount of approved agreements is \$ 45,758.00, namely *Bukhara Cultural and Informational Center, \$ 16,220.00, Kokand CSSC, \$ 15,442.00 and Nukus CSSC, \$ 14,096.00*. The purpose of these agreements is to enter into a partnership with the aim of achieving the overall objective of the Program of Civil Society and NGO Development in the Central Asia Region – Strengthened Democratic Culture among Citizens and Targeted Institutions. The activities to be done according to this agreement are described in "Action Plan for Capacity Building and Service Delivery", which are included as an indivisible part of the present Agreements. Partners will conduct a joint assessment and develop additional details for these plans for the second six months period.

TRAINING MATRIX

KAZAKHSTAN

Module	# of workshops	# of NGOs	# of Participants	# of Men	# of Women
NGO & Community	8	90	115	41	74
NGO Management	3	36	51	9	42
Project Design	7	107	125	39	96
Strategic Planning	3	50	62	16	46
Public Education through the Media	1	8	9	4	5
Fundraising	5	53	88	35	53
Team Building/Conflict Resolution	1	1	118	56	62
Social Partnership	2	31	39	11	28
PCA/PRA	3	33	51	20	41
Volunteerism	1	9	21	12	9
Impact Writing	1	6	16	8	8
Financial Management	1	11	16	5	11
Constituency Development	1	14	15	12	3
Total	37	449	726	268	478

KYRGYZSTAN

Module	# of workshops	# of NGOs	# of Participants	# of Men	# of Women
NGO & Community	1	5	26	12	14
NGO Management	2	27	32	9	23
Project Design	5	41	95	46	49
Strategic Planning	1	17	18	14	4
Fundraising	3	42	54	15	39
Social Partnership	3	44	58	27	31
Facilitation skills	1	5	20	4	16
Micro-business basics	5	22	107	91	16
TOT	2	26	44	20	24
PCA	2	8	29	12	17
Total	25	237	483	250	233

TAJIKISTAN

Module	# of workshops	# of NGOs	# of Participants	# of men	# of women
NGO and Community	16	169	276	133	143
Project Design	5	58	70	34	36
NGO Management	4	40	70	30	40
Fundraising	4	38	59	28	31
Strategic Planning	2	17	32	15	17
Social Partnership	2	15	28	18	10
Advocacy	1	12	16	4	12
Public Education through the Media	1	16	16	9	7
Association Development	1	13	16	9	7
NGO Newsletter Development	1	16	20	9	11
Human Resources Development	2	21	29	9	20
Financial Management	4	51	64	24	40
Volunteer Management	2	15	32	16	16
Coalition Building	1	5	18	13	5
Constituency Building	1	13	16	6	10
PCA	5	45	78	37	41
Total	52	544	840	394	446

TURKMENISTAN

Module	# of workshops	# of NGOs	# of Participants	# of Men	# of Women
NGO & Community	6	55	93	33	60
NGO Management	2	25	33	11	22
Project Design	3	32	45	11	34
Team Building /Conflict Resolution	1	11	14	4	10
Association Development	1	12	15	6	9
Efficient Governance of NGO	1	13	13	2	11
Strategic Planning	1	7	15	6	9
Small Business Development	1	11	14	4	10
Use of Information Resources Internet	1	10	12	1	11
Volunteer Management	2	19	26	7	19
Financial Management	1	15	19	4	15
Public Education through Media	1	10	10	2	8
TOT "Methodology"	1	13	17	7	10
Total	22	233	326	98	228

UZBEKISTAN

Module	# of workshops	# of NGOs	# of Participants	# of Men	# of Women
NGO & Community	8	82	128	41	87
NGO Management	1	9	15	7	8
Project Design	4	48	72	26	46
Strategic Planning	3	34	46	11	35
Fundraising	3	35	45	11	34
Advocacy	1	12	17	0	17
Financial Sustainability	4	40	75	20	55
Human Resource Management	1	14	18	3	15
Team Building/Conflict Resolution	1	11	17	5	12
Social Partnership	3	40	49	13	36
TOT Methodology	4	68	84	18	66
Special Trainings (SOC)	1	7	12	3	9
Volunteer Management	1	14	16	3	13
Participatory Community Appraisal/Community Action Plan	13	114	231	72	159
Total	48	528	825	233	592

LEGAL MATERIALS PROVIDED BY ICNL

Provision of Legal Materials--the following materials (in English and Russian) were distributed to all interested parties in Central Asia:

General Articles and Information

- Brochure on Article-by-Article Commentary of NGO law of Uzbekistan issued in 2001
- Taxation of NGOs – a volume of materials prepared by ICNL DC office on the tax legislation of various countries, issued in 2001 in Kiev
- Legislation for non-profit organizations: theoretical basis and practical implementation – a volume of materials prepared for international conference in Kiev in 10.11.1999
- The Checklist for NPO laws
- *The World Bank's Handbook on Good Practices for Laws Relating to Non-Commercial Organizations* – **Please note that the revised and updated edition of the Handbook is available at ICNL's website at www.icnl.org**
- Book *Non-Commercial Organizations in Central Asia*, written by ICNL local partner-Kazakhstan, Vadim Nee
- *The OSI Guidelines for Civic Organizations*, written by ICNL – **Please note that this document is being updated and revised**
- *Role and Purpose of the NGO Sector: Reasons for a Comprehensive Law*, prepared by the ICNL (general fact sheet)
- *Development of Legislation, the Regulation of Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organizations in Central Asia: Problems and Perspectives*, Vadim Nee, Director of Law and Environment Eurasia Partnership
- *Bases of regulating Activities of the Non-Commercial Sector*, Karla Simon, Executive Vice President ICNL
- *The Role and Purpose of the NGO Sector*, Leon Irish, President ICNL
- *International Laws and Principles of NGO Regulation*, Natalia Bourjaily, ICNL Program Director for NIS
- *Self-regulation in Non-Commercial Sector*. Cathy Shea, ICNL, 2000

Published Articles

- At the request of the Institute of Monitoring Legislation within the Uzbek Parliament, "Democratization and Human Rights", the Institute's magazine published two ICNL articles and the NGO law of Uzbekistan in the English and Russian languages. The first article is "Freedom of Association: Recent Developments Regarding the "Neglected Rights"" by Leon Irish, President of ICNL and Karla Simon, Professor of Law, Catholic University of America; and the second article is the "Check List for NPO Laws"
- Commentary to the Draft Tax Code by Vadim Nee, Legal Reform in Kazakhstan magazine, Interlegal. August 2000
- The Regulation of the NGO in Central Asia: Current Reforms and Ongoing Problems, The Harvard Asia Quarterly, Summer 2000
- Field Report: Kazakhstan Takes Step in Fiscal Reform for NGOs, The Johns Hopkins University, SAIS, Central Asia/Caucasus Analyst, February 2, 2000
- Field Report: Kyrgyzstan Adopts Most Progressive NGO Law in NIS, The Johns Hopkins University, SAIS, Central Asia/Caucasus Analyst, January 19, 2000
- President Signs Long-Awaited NGO Law: "On Non-Commercial Organizations"
The Globe (Central Asian regional newspaper), November 2, 1999
- New Law in Uzbekistan: Law on Non-governmental, Non-commercial Organizations, The Times of Central Asia, May 20, 1999
- Various country reports on legislative reforms in Central Asia are available at <http://www.icnl.org> and in the International Journal for Not-for-Profit Law (IJNL)

Taxation Issues

- ICNL Partners prepared overviews on NGO Taxation in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan
- Article, The Tax Treatment of Not-for-profit Organizations. A Survey of Best Practices from Around the World
- Economic Activities of Non-Commercial Organizations, prepared by the ICNL, for the Regulating Civil Society Conference in Hungary (May, 1996)

Charity Laws

- ICNL Compilation of Charitable Activities Laws and ICNL Comments to these Laws
- Kazakhstan Draft Law on Charity (ICNL assisted)
- Charity Commission – purpose and principles argument sheet
- Moscow Law on Charity, 1995
- Resolution of Mayor on establishment of the Charity Commission in Moscow
- Hungarian Law CLVI on Public Benefit Organizations, 1997
- Selected Provisions of Hungarian Law IV, 1959
- Georgian Draft Law on Charitable Activity and Charitable Organizations

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- Article, *New Legislation on Non-commercial Organizations in Russia*
- Azerbaijan Draft NGO Law (ICNL assisted project)
- Yemen Draft Law on NGOs (drafted with assistance from ICNL)
- Memoranda: The Organizational Legal Forms of NGOs

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- Slovenian Law on Foundations, 1985
- Slovakian Law on Foundations, 1996
- Finnish Law on Foundations, 1930
- Polish Law on Foundations, 1984
- Russian Draft Law on Foundation

Social Partnership

- Comparative Analysis and laws on Social Partnership issues. Caroline Newman, ICNL, 2000

Project Specific Analyses

- ICNL Analysis of Kazakhstan NGO Legislation
- ICNL Analysis of Kazakhstan Tax Code
- ICNL Analysis of Kazakhstan Law on Public Associations
- ICNL Analysis of Cultural Associations Law
- ICNL List--Problems with Kazakhstan Legislation
- ICNL Analysis of Kazakhstan Draft Charity Law
- ICNL Commentary and Proposals on Kyrgyz Tax Code (1)
- ICNL Commentary and Proposals on Kyrgyz Tax Code (2)
- ICNL Analysis and Recommendations to Kyrgyzstan Law on NGOs (ongoing with more than 8 different versions)
- ICNL Analysis of Kyrgyzstan Charity Draft Law (Summer 1999)
- ICNL Analysis of Adopted Kyrgyzstan Charity Law (Spring 2000)
- ICNL Suggested Provisions to Kyrgyzstan NGO Draft Law

- ICNL Recommendations to Uzbekistan Draft NGO Law (on-going with more than 8 different versions – Fall 1998 to Summer 1999)
- ICNL Analysis of Uzbekistan Tax Code (Summer 1998)
- ICNL Recommendations to Tajikistan Draft Law on Public Associations
- ICNL Recommendations to Tajikistan Civil Code
- ICNL Commentary to Turkmenistan Civil Code (Winter 1998-99)
- ICNL Comments to Draft Tax Code Kazakhstan (1)
- ICNL Comments to Draft Tax Code Kazakhstan (2)
- ICNL Comments to Draft Tax Code Kazakhstan (3)
- ICNL Analysis: Tax Changes of December 10, 1999
- ICNL Comments to Adopted NGO Law Kazakhstan (1)
- ICNL Comments to Adopted NGO Law Kazakhstan (2)
- ICNL Analysis of Proposed Humanitarian Aid Law, Kyrgyzstan